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ORANGE FEATHERS »

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HALLOWEEN?
I'M TALKING ABOUT THE MIDTERMS!!
I'M A NATIONALIST!

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EDITORIAL
EDITOR Nick Schou
ASSOCIATE EDITOR Patrice Marsters
SENIOR EDITOR, NEWS & INVESTIGATIONS R. Scott Moxley
STAFF WRITERS Matt Coker, Gabriel San Román
MUSIC EDITOR Nate Jackson
FOOD EDITOR Cynthia Rebolledo
CALENDAR EDITOR Aimee Murillo
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT/ PROOFREADER Lisa Black
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS Dave Barton, Joel Beers, Sarah Bennett, Lilledeshan Bose, Josh Chesler, Heidi Darby, Stacy Davies, Alex Distefano, Erin DeWitt, Jeanette Duran, Edwin Goei, Taylor Hamby, Candace Hansen, Daniel Kohn, Dave Lieberman, Adam Levinus, Todd Mathews, Greg Nagel, Katrina Nattress, Nick Nuk em, Anne Marie Panoringan, CJ Simonsen, Andrew Tonkovich, Brittany Woolsey, Chris Ziegler
EDITORIAL INTERNS Liam Blume, Savannah Muñoz, Spencer Otte

EDITORIAL ART
CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AlGae Leslie Agan, Bob Aul, Jared Beggess, Mark Dancey, Bob Dahl, Jeff Drew, Scott Feinblatt, Greg Mencken, Cameron K. Lewis, Bill Mayer, Luke McGarry, Kevin McVeigh, Thomas Pitilli, Joe Rocco, Julio Salgado
PHOTOGRAPHERS Wednesday Aja, Ed Cavazos, Brian Ernen, Scott Feinblatt, Brian Feinzimer, John Gillmeley, Eric Hood, Nick Iverson, Alex Johnson, Matt Kellar, Isaac Larios, Danny Liao, Fabian Ortiz, Josué Rivas, Evan Ryan, Sugarwolf, Matt UfleMer, Miguel Vasconcellos, Christopher Victorio, William Vo, Kevin Warn, Micah Wright

PRODUCTION
ART DIRECTOR Richie Seckman
PRODUCTION MANAGER Casey Long
LAYOUT DESIGNER/PRODUCTION ARTIST Mercedes Del Real

SALES
PUBLISHER Cynthia Rebolledo
SALES DIRECTOR Ryan Whipple
SALES MANAGER Jason Hamelberg
SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES Danny Hudgins, Katie Lynch
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES Daniel Vaet, Jason Winder

MARKETING
DIGITAL COORDINATOR Dennis Estrada

ADMINISTRATION
PRESIDENT & CEO Duncan McIntosh
VICE PRESIDENT & GENERAL MANAGER Jeff Fleming
AR COORDINATOR Marlinda Ortiz

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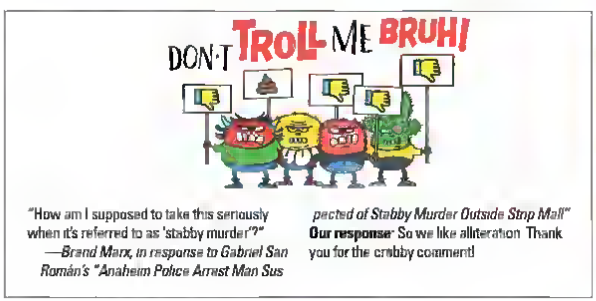

"How am I supposed to take this seriously when it's referred to as 'stabby murder'?"
—*Brand Marx, in response to Gabriel San Román's "Anaheim Police Arrest Man Suspected of Stabby Murder Outside Strip Mall"*

Our response: So we like alliteration. Thank you for the crabby comment!

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Feds want $97 million in cash forfeited by ex-Backpage.com owners

Six months after obtaining a 93-count federal indictment against two Arizona businessmen who once owned a national media empire that included *OC Weekly* and the *Village Voice*, the U.S. Department of Justice is seeking permanent forfeiture of more than $100 million in cash and real estate that belonged to the men and members of their management team.

Inside U.S. District Court in Los Angeles, prosecutors claimed the seized assets derived from the illegal conduct of Michael Lacey, 70, and Jim Larkin, 69, while they operated the adult-services website Backpage.com.

»R. SCOTT MOXLEY

The April indictments, part of a multiyear onslaught by government officials to destroy that highly profitable business, claim Lacey and Larkin conspired to facilitate prostitution across state lines and committed money laundering. If convicted after a potential 2020 trial, the business partners could spend the rest of their lives in prison.

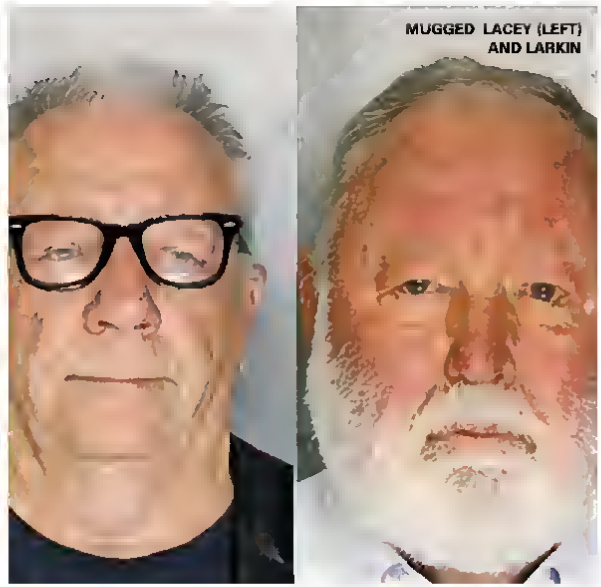
Law enforcement's pursuit of Lacey and Larkin delighted the likes of Attorney General Jeff Sessions, who called the men "criminals," but worried free-speech advocates as well as the libertarian community because neither defendant personally engaged in any sex-trade transaction and, for the majority of Backpage's existence, federal law (namely, the Communications Decency Act) held websites legally harmless for content added by a site's users.

While aiming for a U.S. Senate seat, California Attorney General Kamala Harris twice used Backpage as a political prop by attempting to convict Lacey and Larkin on pimping counts, each time, state judges dismissed the charges as baseless.

But federal officials—including members of the FBI, IRS Criminal Division and U.S. Postal Service—are trying a different angle, focusing largely on finances. They label Backpage as once being the internet's "leading forum for prostitution ads."

Along with the April criminal indictments, the government seized the site and shut it down.

Lacey and Larkin founded the New Times media empire in the 1970s, bought the rival Village Voice Media newspapers in 2005, and eventually sold their newspaper holdings in places such as New York, Miami, Phoenix, Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, Denver and Orange County. They launched Backpage 14 years ago to compete against Craigslist, which at the time dominated online classified advertising that severely undercut daily and weekly newspaper ad revenues.



MUGGED LACEY (LEFT) AND LARKIN

A 2017 report by a U.S. Senate Committee chaired by Rob Portman (R-Ohio) published three major findings: company officials "knowingly concealed evidence of criminality by systematically editing" its adult ads "to conceal the true nature of the underlying transaction"; facilitated "prostitution and child sex trafficking"; and completed a $600 million fake shell-company transaction overseas in 2014 to mask Larey and Larkin's continued ownership of Backpage.

The committee also claims the company earned more than $500 million in revenue, including $135 million in 2014 alone.

Based on their Oct. 11 court filings, prosecutors in the DOJ's Los Angeles asset-forfeiture division are attempting to hinder the ability of Lacey and Larkin to pay for a defense. They've gotten the law firm of Davis Wright Tremaine to surrender $3.7 million in alleged Backpage-related funds. They've seized more than $97 million in cash from bank accounts around the world, including in the Czech Republic and Netherlands. They've also taken control of dozens of domain names as well as the duo's California properties in San Francisco, Saint Helena and Sebastopol, Arizona properties in Paradise Valley and Sedona, and one property in Chicago.

As an Aug. 21 article in *Reason* notes, law-enforcement officials—even one-time FBI director James Comey—have "over the years consistently applauded Backpage for its help making cases against predators and locating runaway teens."

Elizabeth Nolan Brown, the author of the story, isn't impressed with the prosecutors' case. "The story of their arrest is better understood as one of near-religious fervor, government greed and political retribution, in which an escalating panic over commercial sex coincided with a booming online-publishing platform," Brown wrote.

Lacey and Larkin—longtime, vocal critics of corrupt politicians and cops—believe they are being targeted for revenge. Hearings on the government's forfeiture requests have not been scheduled.

RSCOTTMOXLEY@OCWEEKLY.COM

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POLITICAL FOOTBALL

» STEVE LOWERY

San Francisco 49ers vs. Arizona Cardinals

San Francisco update: Demonstrating the kind of grace and compassion that made him *Troglodyte Illustrated*'s "Sad Excuse-of-a-Man of the Year," Donald Trump recently weighed in on California's recent spate of devastating deadly brush fires, which have tormented the state, including Northern California. Though scientists, you know, people who actually study this problem and know what they're talking about, have pointed to the effects of climate change, Trump has said California's problems are due to Californians. "Every year, it's the same thing every year, and they don't want to clean up their forests because they have environmental problems in cleaning it up. It should be the opposite because you're going to lose your forests, you're losing them." Yes, things certainly would be different, Trump says, if his federal government were in charge of things. Now there's nothing new with Trump blaming the victim—it's something he likes to call "courting"—or having no idea of what the truth is—dude wouldn't know the truth if he was grabbing it by the crotch—so it will come as no surprise that the "incompetence" he decries in forest management has nothing to do with Californians since half of all California wild lands belong to, wait for it, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT!

Arizona update: Climate change is about the globe getting hotter, and it's hard to imagine Arizona getting any more miserably hot unless they were to dress every resident in thick wool and relocate the entire state inside a volcano, though I'm pretty sure the volcano would eventually vote to not honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. When people inevitably ask their Arizona friends, "How can you live here?" they're not questioning their life choices, but rather making honest inquiries as to what seems the scientific impossibility of life existing in such a hot, vapid, miserable, beige space. Of course. THE RIVER!!! WOOOOOOO!!!

Root for: San Francisco. Yeah, Trump's comments are insensitive and stupid and cruel and in no way reflective of reality, truth or sanity—so, in keeping with everything else emanating from his hate-hole—but at least he hasn't compounded our pain by chucking paper towels at us. That's when things can really get ugly.

LETTERS@OCWEEKLY.COM

Lady Killer

» MATT COKER

An Oct. 3, 1990, *Washington Post* story quotes Representative Dana Rohrabacher (R-Putin's Clutch Purse) saying he noticed something changed after he was first elected to Congress a couple of years before.

"A lot of women treat me differently," said the then-single Surfin' Congressman. "You're a star. It's like being a member of the football team in high school. You're part of the varsity team."

But when it comes to women's issues that have been before Congress, Rohrabacher has not been a letterman. He voted four times to block the Paycheck Fairness Act and against the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, even though women in his district made 87.5 cents for every dollar a man there made.

BOB AUL

Rohrabacher has also voted against: preventing insurance plans from charging women higher premiums than men; additional funding for programs addressing sexual assault, violence against women, and missing and exploited children; reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act; and empowering sexual-assault victims in the military to seek justice.

He has repeatedly voted to defund or attack Planned Parenthood. Some of these votes were double whammies when it came to poor women's health, as they were part of bills that would also repeal the Affordable Care Act (a.k.a. Obamacare).

What follows are some specific, key votes Rohrabacher made over his 30 years in the House.

Nov. 7, 2007, vote on the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which would prohibit job discrimination on the basis of an individual's actual or perceived sexual orientation: Nay.

Feb. 28, 2013, vote on Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013: Nay.

Feb. 26, 2015, vote on an amendment to authorize the STEM Gateways program, which provided funding to support the success of women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields: Nay.

April 29, 2015, vote on a resolution to block a Washington, D.C., law that protects against discrimination on the basis of reproductive decisions: Aye.

Sept. 29, 2015, vote on the Women's Public Health and Safety Act, which allows states to refuse to make Medicaid payments to health-care providers that perform abortions: Aye.

Jan. 6, 2016, vote on the Restoring Americans' Healthcare Freedom Reconciliation Act of 2015, which includes provisions prohibiting states from using federal funds to fund Planned Parenthood and other organizations that perform abortions except in cases of rape, incest or threat to the life of the pregnant woman: Aye.

One wonders if the head cheerleader dumped Rohrabacher soon after he said that varsity-football-player shit.

Got Dana fodder?
Contact mcoker@ocweekly.com

HeyYou!

» ANONYMOUS

Wheel Heroes

You were the men who were leaving Irvine's FivePoint Amphitheatre after the Flogging Molly/Dropkick Murphys concert on Sept. 28. Walking across the elevated bridge toward the train station/ride share lot, you noticed the man in the motorized wheelchair who was stranded by the inoperable elevator. Strangers, you called out to one another, then quickly worked together to safely carry the man and his chair down three flights of stairs. After reaching the bottom, you all graciously accepted applause, praise and thanks, then went your separate ways. It was, perhaps, the best performance of the night.

BOB AUL

HEY, YOU! Send anonymous thanks, confessions or accusations—changing or deleting the names of the guilty and innocent—to "Hey You!" c/o *OC Weekly*, 18475 Bandilier Circle, Fountain Valley, CA 92708, or email us at letters@ocweekly.com.

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ORANGE COUNTY'S SCARIEST PEOPLE OF 2018

BY OC WEEKLY STAFF

ILLUSTRATIONS BY SHOW AHL

1 & 2) GENE HERNANDEZ & SUSAN TULLY

Back in April, Yorba Linda Mayor Gene Hernandez chummed it up over the phone with Susan Tully, national field director for the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR), a noted hate group. Tully previously emailed council members to invite them to join Attorney General Jeff Sessions' lawsuit against California's "Sanctuary State" laws, which the city did. Hernandez gushed at the council about how the pair realized they worked together before, the mayor served on Orange's police force back in the '90s when Tully worked code enforcement. Hernandez, a *vendido* sportin' old-timey *Californio* whiskers, ran FAIR's ground game in reaching out to other municipalities, all in vain. In July, a federal judge ruled mostly in favor of California against Sessions. **Mitigating factor:** Hernandez's affair with FAIR led to a liberal awakening in Yorba Linda, one that saw protesters outnumbering Know-Nothings gathered for a rally with ex-sheriff Joe Arpaio and local congressional hopeful Phil Liberatore—both losers! *(Gabriel San Román)*

3) GRACEY VAN DER MARK

Last summer, Gracey Van Der Mark crashed an anti-racist workshop in Santa Monica with a band of anti-Semites, two of whom headed to Charlottesville days later as Unite the Right speakers. She posted video of the chaos and left comments on the thread calling blacks "colored people" who provided "muscle" for Jews running the workshop. On her YouTube channel, Van Der Mark also curated a "Holocaust hoax?" playlist. Two school districts booted her from boards overseeing posts, but Huntington Beach City Councilman Patrick Brenden stood by his finance-commission appointee. Alt-right associations and bigotry didn't make Congressman Dana Rohrabacher and the OC GOP shy away from endorsing her bid to become an Ocean View School District trustee. Hell, that's what probably sealed the deal! **Mitigating factor:** According to old court records from a messy past marriage, Van Der Mark would pass out whenever someone said, "Hypnotize!" If elected to school board, the public can put that ol' trick to the test! *(GSM)*

4) RISE ABOVE MOVEMENT

The Rise Above Movement (RAM) debuted at a MAGA march last year in—where else?—Huntington Beach. A white-supremacist fight club, RAM's penchant for political violence became readily apparent when members punched a *Weekly* reporter and an anti-fascist protester. Training at Marblehead Park in San Clemente, RAM traveled to rallies in Berkeley and Charlottesville that year for more street brawls. Authorities seemed uninterested until the FBI arrested three members and an associate this month for violating federal rioting laws in Charlottesville. Now, all RAM's HB-based, white-power-themed clothing company can do is sell lame "Free the Cville 4" stickers while its pals face 10 years in prison. **Mitigating factor:** After an exposé by *ProPublica*, RAM tweeted a pair of journalists the following: "Remember when your out celebrating, toast to the guys who got you your only hit story's. Remember before us, you were nobody's." Can't accuse RAM of being grammar Nazis! *(GSM)*

5) CHUCK JOHNSON

Not to be confused with Charles Johnson, the asshole far-right blogger who stuffed Dana Rohrabacher's campaign coffers and set up a meeting between the congressman and Wikileaks' Julian Assange last year, our Chuck Johnson is the local unhinged blogger behind HB Sledgehammer. Desperately wanting to be a Surf City scourge, Johnson injected so much invective into his scribblings that his site made the Huntington Beach Community Forum seem halfway-decent by comparison! Unsurprisingly, his favorite political target proved to be a woman: Ocean View School District trustee Gina Clayton-Tarvin. She sued the blogger for making violent threats, but a judge denied her a permanent restraining order. Chuckie rejoiced and countered with an anti-SLAPP motion that got tossed. **Mitigating factor:** HB Sledgehammer's online archives are now locked away, viewable only to those shiny souls granted permission. *(GSM)*

6) ALISO NIGUEL HIGH SCHOOL

With the Aliso Niguel Wolverines hosting the Santa Ana Saints for a football game on "Red, White and Blue" night, what could go wrong in these Trump times? EVERYTHING! Signs in the stands reading, "We gonna trump ya" and chants of "USA!" after Wolverine touchdowns prompted Santa Ana High School principal Jeff Bishop to call for a halftime huddle with Aliso Niguel administrators. He threatened to walk his mostly Mexi kids off the field if the racist taunting continued. After the game, Bishop sounded off on social media, igniting a firestorm of a cootroversy. Wolverine apologists denied anything Bishop described took place while begging FOX News *pendejo* Tucker Carlson on Twitter to take the story on—only proving Bishop's point further! **Mitigating factor:** Aliso Viejo Mayor (and wannabe Donald Trump) Dave Harrington got caught distributing campaign materials at the game. Flag on the play! (GSM)

7) PHIL BACERRA

After securing key endorsements, Phil Bacerra's Santa Ana City Council campaign seemed headed for a smooth victory. It's bad enough Bacerra helped gentrify SanTana during his time as a planning commissioner. But then, Griselda Govea, a former girlfriend, went public with domestic-violence accusations. She claims Bacerra threw her around, called her a cunt, spat at her and kicked dirt in her face during their years-long relationship. Bacerra denies all allegations. The OC Young Democrats rescinded its endorsement anyway. And after launching an investigation, central committee delegates of the Democratic Party of Orange County suspended the nod it gave to his campaign. **Mitigating factor:** The powerful Santa Ana Police Officers Association continues to back Bacerra, showing voters its true-blue colors! *(GSM)*

8) THE REVEREND JONATHAN JENKINS

Santa Ana police cuffed youth pastor Jonathan Jenkins outside a liquor store this month for sexually assaulting a 12-year-old girl at Starlight Baptist Church. Before staring down his third strike, Jenkins ran Papa's Fish & Soul Food in Anaheim. But the restaurant shuttered years ago, and now the reverend is accused of being a badly behaving Baptist. Police say he cornered his victim in a Santa Ana church bathroom, then choked and sexually assaulted her. When she didn't report that incident and others to police, Jenkins allegedly taunted her by saying if she ever did, he'd tell the cops she invited it. Officers must not have bought that line. **Mitigating factor:** If convicted of a third strike, Jenkins may spend the rest of his life in prison, where he can help correctional cooks make slop a little more soulful. *(GSM)*

9) THE GOLDEN STATE KILLER

Former cop Joseph James DeAngelo is due back in court Dec. 6 in relation to a long reign of terror in six California counties—including ours—from the mid-1970s through the mid-'80s. The 72-year-old faces 13 counts of first-degree murder; special circumstances for burglary, rape and multiple murders, as well as 13 counts of kidnapping to commit robbery that would also include rape charges had the statute of limitations not expired. Among the Golden State Killer's murder victims were Dana Point couple Keith and Patrice Harrington, 24 and 27, respectively; Manuela Witthuhn, 28, of Irvine, and the serial slayer's last known murder victim, 18-year-old Janelle Cruz of Irvine. **Mitigating factor:** DeAngelo is so old his life sentence will be short. *(Matt Coker)*

10) DR. GRANT ROBICHEAUX

The Newport Beach orthopedic surgeon, who appeared on the reality show *Online Dating Rituals of the American Male*, had a dating ritual that involved luring women to drug, rape and videotape them, according to local authorities who fear there may be 1,000 victims. Dr. Grant William Robicheaux, 38, and his 31-year-old girlfriend, Cerissa Laura Riley, face felony rape, assault and oral copulation with anesthesia or controlled substances as well as

weapons charges, District Attorney Tony Rackauckas announced at a disturbing press conference in September. **Mitigating factor:** The nightmare ended quickly, and by that, we mean Bravo's reality show lasted only one season. *(MC)*

11) JOHN EDWARD ZERETZKE

He's a rare back-to-back Scariest Person. Why? Because the 60-year-old music teacher's name was not released when authorities investigated him last year for allegedly giving semen-filled flutes to students in Fullerton, Fountain Valley, Newport Beach, Costa Mesa, San Juan Capistrano and elsewhere in Southern California. The feds did identify John Edward Zeretzke in September, when he was arrested on suspicion of coercing a young girl to produce child pornography, attempting to entice another victim to send him sexually explicit images, traveling to the Philippines with the intent to engage in illicit sex with children, and receiving child porn over the internet. **Mitigating factor:** Easy A. *(MC)*

12) DAVID HENDRICKS

In our opinion, there's only one choke-out worth noting in 2018. No, we're not talking about Khabib Nurmagomedov's legendary fourth-round choke of Conor McGregor; we're talking about the chokehold Fullerton Chief of Police David Hendricks put on a Symons EMT at an Irvine concert in August. Reportedly, Hendricks, his wife and police captain Thomas Oliveiras were drinking heavily at a Lady Antebellum concert when Hendricks' wife started feeling sick. When EMTs arrived to help, the chief put an EMT in a chokehold. **Mitigating factor:** Hendricks was appointed to the position to help improve the Fullerton Police Department's brutal image in the wake of Kelly Thomas' death, as well as the FPD coverup of City Manager Joe Felz's DUI. Glad to know he'll really *fight* for the department. *(Liam Blume)*

13) ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

In early 2018, the Orange County Board of Supervisors evicted the homeless from tents along the Santa Ana Riverbed, only to realize there was no place to relocate them. In March, the board voted unanimously to join Trump's lawsuit opposing California's position as a sanctuary state, essentially condoning Gestapo-style ICE raids on immigrant communities. And now, its October lawsuit against the OC Needle Exchange Program is liable to cause an outbreak of disease and infection in the county. This has been a hallmark year in the Supervisors' long-standing war against empathy, proving that if you're not white or rich in OC, then they don't want ya! **Mitigating factor:** On Sept. 27, the Board approved a sleek, new, $400 million Eagles Nest in Santa Ana. The building will serve as the face of a New Reich after its efforts to rid OC of homeless people, addicts and immigrants through infectious disease and fascist ICE agents is complete. *(LB)*

14) FORREST DDDDDD CLARK

White Trash Jesus Forrest Gordon Clark wrought an Old Testament reckoning upon OC by igniting his neighbor Frank R's home in Holy Jim Canyon in August. The flames engulfed 23,000 acres of the Cleveland National Forest in Orange and Riverside counties, destroyed 18 structures, and injured three firefighters. On Facebook, Clark can be seen kissing a rattlesnake, interpreting the Word of God to proclaim our right to smoke th the weed, and requesting we "hang the pedophile Pope!" Clark violated the First Commandment of Arson. Thou shalt not act crazy as fuck in court after thou burneth thy neighbors' cabin. **Mitigating factor:** Clark is facing life in prison for arson, and with any luck, he won't set any more fires, forever and ever amen. *(LB)*

15) ASHLEY BEMIS

What can survive with enormous *cajones* and no heart? Following the Holy Fire, Ashley Bemis scammed via Facebook $11,000 in donations, which she said were to help her fictitious firefighter husband and other fire crews. With international media covering the bizarre antics of White Trash Jesus, maybe it wasn't the best time to run a large-scale con. **Mitigating factor:** Bemis' other lies include telling friends she was pregnant, walking around with a fake baby-bump for eight months, then telling friends the baby died in labor and asking for money to cover medical costs. *(LB)*

16) TARIN OLSON

Last March, Golden West College counselor Tarin Olson made national headlines when a video of her, apparently unprompted, telling an Asian couple to "go back [to their] home country" went viral. In the video, posted to Facebook by Long Beach resident Tony Kao, Olson pushes the bogus "white genocide" myth propagated by alt-right creeps such as Alex Jones, Mike Cernovich and Ann Coulter when she claims there are "too many" Asian-Americans, making her culture "go extinct," and hinting who she supported in the 2016 election by telling Kao, "I never voted for you." Later, in a statement to the *Daily Pilot* in an attempt to win sympathy, Olson said she was "not in a good place mentally" because of the response to her outburst, which she believes "wasn't even racist." Although she is still a Golden West employee, she hasn't been on campus since the incident, and according to a source, her house went up for sale over the summer. **Mitigating factor:** She told CBS that her students know she isn't racist. Sure, whatever. *(Spencer Otte)*

17) WEIRVINE

We would describe the Chinese-language site in better detail, but none of us knows how to read Mandarin. But we *do* know WeIrvine was the main force behind one of the most bizarre protests in Orange County history: thousands of mostly Asian immigrants taking tourist buses to an April Orange County Board of Supervisors meeting to protest a plan to erect a temporary homeless shelter at the Orange County Great Park. The immigrants' argument was straight out of the NIMBY playbook—Irvine is too nice of a city, won't someone think of the children, Santa Ana deserves them—proving Don Bren is a warlock of unparalleled power. Because what other city can take immigrants who still prefer a foreign language and turn them into frothing nationalists? **Mitigating factor:** All that Asian migration to Irvine has led the city to have one of the best food scenes in OC. *(Sebastian Iturbide)*

18) WARREN KUSUMOTO

Los Alamitos has one of the lowest crime rates of any OC city, along with a tiny amount of undocumented immigrants who barely contribute to said crime rate. That didn't stop two-term City Councilman Warren Kusumoto (who's currently running for re-election) from pushing to have Los Al fight California over the Sanctuary State law, a fight the small city is so woefully unprepared for it started a GoFundMe page to, well, fund their hate. **Mitigating**

» CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

HOW ARE YOU ADVERTISING?
OMG!
Programmatic
THE MODERN "DIGITAL" FOOT TRAFFIC
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THE MODERN "DIGITAL" DIRECT MAIL
Social Media
THE MODERN "DIGITAL" FOOT TRAFFIC
Retargeting
THE MODERN "DIGITAL" REPEAT CUSTOMERS
CASE STUDY
THE CAMPAIGN
The goal was to increase memberships and grow a gym's brand
THE SOLUTION
A blend of programmatic display and exact address match utilizing our Device ID technology were used. The client provided a prospect list and cancellation list with the goal of serving ads to those individuals on the list and to everyone else in the household
THE RESULT
With Device ID we leveraged location-based data to target specific households. We were able to target all devices within a household. We were even able to deliver ads to people who cancelled a membership to encourage them to sign back up!
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OCWEEKLY

SCARIEST PEOPLE

» FROM PAGE 9

factor: We should always have sympathy for cowards, he never peeped a word while Los Zetas, actual immigrant criminals, operated out of the Los Alamitos Race Track earlier this decade. *(SI)*

19) MICHAEL GATES

This city attorney for Huntington Beach doesn't want nudists to rent public pools, illegal immigrants or affordable housing in town, nor does he want residents to try to ban semiautomatic and automatic guns, so he has wielded his legal might to make his will be done. Though Michael Gates doesn't seem to mind the Surf City's corrupt police department or the many white supremacists in town, he's running unopposed for re-election, which shows Fontucky-by-the-Sea residents approve of both his actions and inactions. **Mitigating factor:** He's not related to Brad or Daryl, two other sleazy lawmen. *(SI)*

20) SAMUEL WOODWARD

Newport Beach resident Samuel Woodward, who had homophobic and Nazi images on his cellphone, thought it was fun to pose as "gay curious" on the internet, lure unsuspecting people he considered "faggots," and then punk them. All that, um, hilarity ended in January, when 21-year-old Woodward allegedly murdered Blaze Bernstein, a gay Ivy League college student home on holiday break. Bernstein's body was found in a shallow grave at a Lake Forest public park. He'd been stabbed in the face and neck 20 times. When arrested, Woodward, who'd picked up Bernstein at his home before the killing, employed the age-old lame excuse of claiming he was the victim of a sexually aggressive, smaller Bernstein. Please. **Mitigating factor:** If convicted, Woodward will get his wish to spend the rest of his life only with men. Oh, wait—he probably didn't think this through. Or did he? *(R. Scott Moxley)*

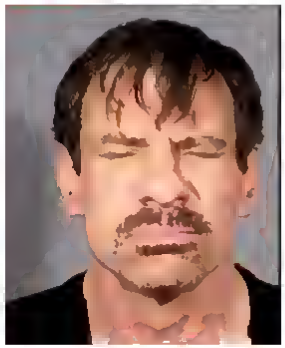
21) CHRISTINA IGNATIUS

In Orange County, Asian women "poaching for dollars" dupe "sucker" Caucasians into marriages. Asians can't pronounce UCLA, calling it "UCRA." Asians "took over our mall at South Coast Plaza" and walk around with "a zoned-in personality where they act as if no one else exists." Asians were raised by "Tiger moms who told them 'to become docta.'" Asians attending UC Irvine with her drove "rice rockets." That's just part of attorney Christina Ignatius' rant in a single Facebook post. When confronted, Ignatius—a Chapman University law grad—dug deeper, stating, "I do not hate Asians. I really love them, and I find differences to be funny and interesting." **Mitigating factor:** To win a Fox show, Ignatius must now opine about African-Americans, Mexicans, Jews, gays, Native Americans, poor people and, of course, the Irish. *(RSM)*

22) JOHN SARO BALIAN

John Saro Balian officially served as a police detective in Los Angeles, but the Seal Beach resident actually worked on the sly for Armenian mobsters and Mexican drug cartels, according to court records. Underworld figures told FBI agents that Balian tipped them to upcoming drug busts or fugitive hunts. He traveled with the girlfriend of a high-ranking cartel boss and chatted with her on a burner phone 1,534 times in a two-year-period. Investigators found evidence he also tried to use sensitive law-enforcement databases to hunt down people for the gangsters and ran a stolen-vehicle-smuggling operation. **Mitigating factor:** Balian can now work as a Hollywood consultant for the next blockbuster narco-world flick. *(RSM)*

23) THIS GUY



Henry Nicholas III is the billionaire co-founder of Irvine's Broadcom. He was arrested Aug. 7 after police found drugs in his Las Vegas hotel room. He and his girlfriend allegedly trafficked meth, coke, heroin and MDMA. **Mitigating factor:** Unlike at his former Laguna Hills mansion, there was no underground sex dungeon in which to hide from cops. *(MC)*

24) JUAN JOSE OROZCO

Our Creepy Boss Hall of Fame is ready for a new edition thanks to Original Mike's general manager Juan Jose Orozco. Five female employees of the downtown Santa Ana restaurant and bar filed a lawsuit against owner Mike Harrah in 2014, accusing Orozco of groping, sexual battery, sexual harassment, and refusing to give them shifts if they didn't line up to hug and kiss him at the end of each shift (*blech!*). The hefty *jefe* also allegedly told an employee who returned from maternity leave that he thought she looked better pregnant because "her ass was bigger." When the woman complained about his comments, Orozco allegedly began to stroke her face with his hands without any invitation. The lawsuit against Original Mike's and Orozco is still ongoing. **Mitigating factor:** Just as Dracula is allergic to garlic, women who work with this portly

pervert should carry around a handful of something Orozco would never go near—some broccoli, perhaps? *(Nate Jackson)*

25) DEE ANDREWS

Long Beach's notoriously crooked Sixth District councilman (now vice mayor) landed on our radar this year because of his dirty dealings with the legendary VIP Records, whose sign was removed from its rightful spot only to be replaced by a 7-Eleven. Dee Andrews not only supported this travesty, but he also helped facilitate it in his quest to Dee-stroy one of LBC's most revered historic landmarks in the heart of his district. Last month, it was revealed through public records that Andrews even threatened fellow City Council member Lena Gonzales for showing support for the famed record store, saying, "Watch your back, or you're going to get hit and killed by a bus." Just the kind of behavior we've come to expect from Andrews. **Mitigating factor:** The hood knows better than to trust an old man whose only relation to G-Funk is his weird, grandpa smell. *(NJ)*

26) LONG BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

In September, Al Jazeera reported that for years, Long Beach police have been using an app called Tiger Text, which allows text messages to completely disappear after a conversation. The app was installed on hundreds of officers' cellphones and essentially permitted police to discuss such sensitive matters as officer-involved shootings without any permanent record, letting cops get their stories straight before being interviewed by prosecutors. **Mitigating factor:** Whoops, Long Beach is the only city in LA County where officers are never even interviewed after shootings, but rather get to provide written statements, presumably while being coached by their superiors. *(Nick Schou)*

27) RONI BURNS-ELLIS

Here's another typical entry from that benighted stretch of tarmac known as Los Alamitos: Roni Burns-Ellis, principal of McGaugh Elementary School, apparently just could not handle the fact that Nike hired Colin Kaepernick to represent its brand. So she shredded her Nike T-shirt and went on social media to brag about it. "My newest rag!" she posted on Facebook, along with a photo of the desecrated shirt. "When Nike signs an anti-Ameriran thug to represent their brand, I will not support, wear, purchase or endorse their product." **Mitigating factor:** Burns-Ellis took down her post after 200 people started a Change.org petition against her. *(NS)*

28) ANDREW URDIALES

One of the most depraved serial killers in recent memory, Andrew Urdiales began his killing spree while serving as a Marine at Camp Pendleton in the 1980s. His first victim was Robbin Brandley, a Saddleback College student who had the misfortune of walking to her car in a dark parking lot when Urdiales, who had wandered on campus, brutally stabbed her to death. The crime remained unsolved for years until Urdiales was linked to several murders in the Midwest and confessed to killing Brandley. **Mitigating factor:** Urdiales now faces a death sentence for his crimes. *(NS)*

29) MICHAEL AVENATTI

Yes, *that* Michael Avenatti. The guy seems to be too busy on TV mocking President Tiny and filing lawsuits on behalf of porn stars and other victims of Trump's legendary public-relations network, which paid women for their stories so they could keep them out of the public light. The media loves Avenatti just like Trump because he gives good soundbites and headlines, but the public is starting to sour on his penchant for self-promotion. **Mitigating factor:** The Irvine Co. recently booted Avenatti and his law firm from their Fashion Island offices after the firm failed to pay rent. *(NS)*

30) CYNTHIA STRANGE

The 64-year-old was arrested in October on suspicion of murdering her 92-year-old mother, Ruth Strange, in Huntington Beach. The younger Strange was later charged with a sentencing enhancement of murder for financial gain. **Mitigating factor:** Nowhere to spend mommy's money. *(MC)*

31) MIKE NESS

Social Distortion might not be writing any hits lately, but they can still give 'em. At a show in Sacramento in July, singer Mike Ness railed against Trump onstage, garnering cheers from all but one fan. Trump supporter Tim Hildebrand, who stupidly decided to give him the finger. After a brief verbal spat, Ness reportedly socked the shit out of him, leaving Hildebrand with two black eyes, a busted lip and a concussion. If you're a fan of Social D and are thinking about battling the hand over their politics, you better think twice before flipping the bird, or else you're going to make your own bad, bad luck. **Mitigating factor:** Consider sporting some eyeliner like Ness did back in the day when he used to get his ass whooped by jocks. The memory of his childhood might make him more likely to connect with you instead of kill you. *(NJ)*

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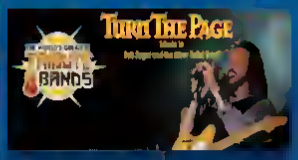
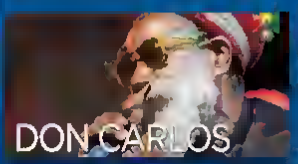
Events at Newport Dunes



Turn the Poge
Tribute ta Bob Seager
Saturday, November 3rd

Newport Dunes Unplugged
Ft. Nirvanish, Memary Lane, Great Pumpkin
Saturday, December 8th



Reggae on the beach
Ft. Don Corlos
w/ Special Guests
At Bayview Tent Pavilion
Saturday, December 29th

Dead Man's Party
At Back Bay Bistro
Saturday, December 29th

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*calendar

JOSEPH HITZELBERGER (ROLAND SANDS DESIGN)

fri/10/26

[THEATER]

SPACE AGE SPUNK

Vampire Queen of Mars

Writer/director Michael Dale Brown is at it again with his kitschy, campy, sci-fi stage spoofs—now with more Amazons! Taking its cue from schlocky 1950s greats such as *Cat-Women of the Moon*, *Queen of Outer Space* and *Rocketship X-M*, *Vampire Queen of Mars* follows the travels and travails of the first human expedition to Mars after they encounter a bloodthirsty race of Amazon vampires—yes, it literally sucks! This angry red planet is no place for sissies, especially when beautiful-evil Queen Voluptua is wielding her lascivious lady wand, so eject yourself out of reality for a few light-years and aim for this outrageous world premiere of adventure-seeking space studs versus man-eating Martian mack mamas and enjoy the interplanetary ride of your life!

Vampire Queen of Mars at Costa Mesa Civic Playhouse, 661 Hamilton St., Costa Mesa, (949) 650-5269, costamesaplayhouse.org. 8 p.m. Through Nov. 11. $20-$25. —SR DAVIES

[ART]

A Monstrous Good Time

Pageant of the Monsters

Coming back to life only once every five years, Pageant of the Monsters takes over the otherwise-serene grounds of the Festival of Arts in Laguna Beach. Guests can enjoy a chilling look behind the Pageant of the Masters stage, transformed into a haunted maze themed *Raiders of the Lost Art* (the Pageant people love a good play on words). Follow adventurer and archeologist Cincinnati Smith (get it?) through the treacherous Amazon jungle in search of the Holy Grail, but beware, as all sorts of creepy creatures await you. If you make it out alive, explore the rest of the festival grounds and partake in some of the many Halloween activities offered, including silent horror-film screenings, create-a-mask workshops, "Boo Bingo" and twisted sideshow acts.

Pageant of the Monsters at Festival of Arts, 650 Laguna Canyon Rd., Laguna Beach, (949) 494-1145, foapom.com/monsters. 6 p.m. Through Wed. $10-$20. Not recommended for children younger than 5. —ERIN DEWITT

sat/10/27

[FESTIVAL]

RIDERS IN THE SAND

Moto Beach Classic

The motorcycle scene may seem too aloof and "outsider" for some folks, but it's a community that's a lot more inclusive than you'd think. Case in point: today's Moto Beach Classic, a two-day event presented by local brand Roland Sands Design that features not only motorcycle-racing competitions and a showcase of bikes for the enthusiasts out there, but a music and art festival that hopes to attract the wider public as well. Today's headliners include the Offspring, Suicidal Tendencies, TSOL, Pennywise and more, while Sunday's lineup includes Rancid, Social Distortion, Bad Religion, Black Rebel Motorcycle Club and the Interrupters. Even if you've never been to a racing competition, there's a lot of excitement to be had—and maybe even some inspiration to hit the road on your own two-wheeler someday!

Moto Beach Classic at Huntington State Beach, 21601 Pacific Coast Hwy., Huntington Beach, www.motoclassicevents.com. 11 a.m., also Sun. $59.50-$4,000. —AIMEE MURILLO

[COMMUNITY EVENTS]

Join the Undead!

Long Beach Zombie Walk

Ever wonder what life is like for brain-eating zombies? Well, now's your chance to find out! This year marks the 10th anniversary of the first Long Beach Zombie Walk, and as usual, the whole undead family is welcome to congregate with other decaying bodies for a little bit of exercise and a whole lotta fun. Shoreline Village will host vendors, musicians, trick-or-treaters, outdoor movie screenings, and, of course, the actual walk/shuffle of zombies and zombie impersonators. You have the whole year to be alive. Why not spend a portion of one day experiencing what life is like on the other side? By the way, no actual brain-eating or any other acts of cannibalism will be tolerated . . . but that's a no-brainer, right?

MORE » ONLINE
OCWEEKLY.COM

Long Beach Zombie Walk at Shoreline Village, 401-435 Shoreline Village Dr., Long Beach, www.zombiewalklb.com. 2 p.m. Free. —SCOTT FEINBLATT

sun/10/28

[PETS]

Howling Good Time

Haute Dog Howl'oween Parade

What pup owner doesn't love a good chance to dress up their beloved pooch in the spirit of Halloween? The annual Haute Dog Howl'oween Parade is an occasion to do just that. If you wish for your pet to participate, register in advance or on-site, where vendors, an adoption fair and photo opps will also be available. Humans and canines in costume will be eligible to win their respective costume contests, and best of all, registration fees will go toward the Community Action Team nonprofit, which funds events for children and dogs as well as local beach cleanups.

Haute Dog Howl'oween Parade at Marina Vista Park, 5255 E. Eliot St., Long Beach; www.hautedogs.org/howloween.html. Parade registration, $10–$35, admission, free; advanced seating, $10–$200. —AIMEE MURILLO

[PARTIES]

Saltwater Scares

Halloween at Sea

Today's Halloween at Sea event brought to you by the Xanadu Foundation will make you feel like a kid all over again. This ultimate party cruise is less tricks, more treats with a fun-filled lineup of musical acts on its multiple floors. Phenomnom Truck will provide yummy vegan, chicken or beef tacos, while Phnom Cuisine and Purity Organic offer up other indulgent (but healthy and organic) sweets and refreshments. Plus, talented artists such as Katie Seabrook and Skyler Gonzalez show their works in the Floating Art Gallery. Ticket proceeds go toward Xanadu's ocean and environmental activism.

Halloween at Sea at Catalina Classic Cruises, 1046 Queens Hwy., Long Beach, www.thexanadulife.com. 4 p.m. $40–$60. 21+. —AIMEE MURILLO

RASCAL FLATTS
NOV 2
LORD OF THE DANCE
DANGEROUS GAMES
THIS FRI OCT 26
DIANA KRALL
NOV 3
J BALVIN
NOV
PAULA ABDUL
NOV
DEC 1 TONY ORLANDO & DAWN
A CHRISTMAS REUNION
DEC 7 TONY BENNETT
DEC 15 PAULINA RUBIO
DEC 21 BRIAN SETZER
ORCHESTRA'S 15TH ANNIVERSARY
'CHRISTMAS ROCKS!' TOUR
STARTING AT $149
(PER NIGHT)
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ENTAINMENT
SNOWBIRD
PACKAGE
ONE NIGHT DELUXE HOTEL
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$20 FREE PLAY
$45 RESTAURANT CREDIT
1 PM GUARANTEED CHECKOUT
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Hotel prices are per night plus resort fee. Snowbird Package valid Mon. - Thurs. through 4/30/19. Blackout dates may apply. Ask for code SNOWBIRD. Credit card required as deposit at hotel check-in. Cash is no longer an acceptable form for room deposit. Management reserves the right to cancel or modify promotions at any time.

mon/10/29

[FILM]

Dark Shadows

Nosferatu

Musician, composer, author and silent-movie enthusiast Jack Curtis Dubowsky annually gathers his Jack Curtis Dubowsky Ensemble together to perform an original live score for the 1922 silent horror classics. This year, he has composed an excellent score for one of the OG's of the genre, *Nosferatu*. The ensemble's dark, brooding instrumentals and electronic sounds will complement the iconic black-and-white German Expressionist film, starring Max Schreck in a performance that has gone on to influence every representation of Bram Stoker's *Dracula* decades later. Do your Halloween-loving heart a favor and check it out!

Nosferatu with live score by Jack Curtis Dubowsky Ensemble at the Art Theatre, 2025 E. Fourth St., Long Beach, (562) 438-5435, arttheatrelongbeach.org. 7 p.m. $11.50. —AIMEE MURILLO

tue/10/30

[TALKS]

Travelin' Man

Henry Rollins Travel Slideshow Tour

When he's not onstage belting songs from his Black Flag days or from his own catalog, Henry Rollins can be heard on KCRW during his weekly radio show or seen taking photos. Thus, his upcoming Travel Slideshow Tour isn't just a clever name. Here, the 57-year-old draws on experiences and his vast archive of photographs, which stretch as far away as Baghdad and Pyongyang (yes, you read that correctly). If there's anyone who could make an event like this enthralling, it's Rollins.

Henry Rollins Travel Slideshow Tour at City National Grove of Anaheim, 2200 E. Katella Ave., Anaheim, (714) 712-2700, www.citynationalgroveofanaheim.com. 8 p.m. $30–$155. —WYOMING REYNOLDS

wed/10/31

[NIGHTLIFE]

CREATURES OF THE NIGHT

Halloween Bash

If you were looking for the ultimate Halloween party to dress up in your slutty club-kid best, here it is. Sound the Groove, an event-production company that hosts decadent parties and raves across California and New York, brings you a spooky, immersive nightclub experience at the House of Blues' Foundation Room. Performers and dancers will be present among the crowd, decked out in their wildest costumes and cosplay outfits as they interact with you while you dance the night away. DJs and live bands provide musical entertainment. Think of it as a night at Knott's Scary Farm, except instead of trying to scare the living daylights out of you, you and the performers will be getting your freak on!

Halloween Bash at House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583, www.houseofblues.com/anaheim. 6 p.m. $15. 21+. —AIMEE MURILLO

[CONCERT]

Making a Splash

Geneva Jacuzzi

LA's Geneva Jacuzzi is an artist in every way she can be. Her kaleidoscopic aesthetic makes for live performances that are really performance art, with her 2016 Goth-industrial-pop-Bowie-in-*Technophelia* serving as a jumping-off point. (Even that album title is bristling with meaning—the usual mode from Jacuzzi.) Two years later, and there's no new record yet, although the world could use one. But helpful clips on social media portray her working at full power. At the Echo last month, she was slicing up the stage in a Vampira-via-Klaus Nomi outfit amid twitching tentacle tubes and waving flags, delivering an especially arctic version of *Technophelia*'s "Casket." (You can see why Casa made the excellent call to book her.) With Casa regular JJR deejaying.

Geneva Jacuzzi with JJR (DJ set) at Casa, 820 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa, casabarcostamesa.com. 8 p.m. Free. Costume required. 21+. —CHRIS ZIEGLER

thu/11/01

[PERFORMING ARTS]

Frida People!

Murder by Life: The Frida Kahlo Story

The wonderfully named Acting Out series bringing historical figures to life reanimates the artist and cultural-political icon Frida Kahlo with a one-woman show by actress Linda Bustillos, hosted by Fullerton's Muckenthaler Center, a.k.a. "The Muck." In *Murder by Life*, we see dramatized the autobiography of a woman who struggled with physical pain, revolutionary politics and philandering artist/hubby Diego Rivera, including the bus accident that nearly killed her, yet also shaped her character and created the redemptive, always joyously liberationist, vividly accessible ethos of her gorgeous paintings and legendary persona.

Murder by Life: The Frida Kahlo Story at the Muckenthaler Center, 1201 W. Malvern Ave., Fullerton, (714) 738-6595, themuck.org. 7:30 p.m. $12.50-$25. —ANDREW TONKOVICH

[THEATER]

MS. MILLSAP GOES TO WASHINGTON

Kings

In the spirit of the upcoming midterm elections, South Coast Repertory brings a poignantly relevant play that willfully prods you to the voting polls. Written by Sarah Burgess, *Kings* surrounds a newly elected, idealistic congresswoman named Sydney Millsap, who comes to realize how hard making change in Washington is as she encounters all sorts of morally challenged people in power, among them a Texas senator named John McDowell. Sydney also learns the potential power of lobbyists, and with the help of one named Kate, she goes about on a journey to fight the system's rules and unseat the dastardly McDowell. Directed by Damaso Rodriguez, *Kings* takes on the topic of democracy and politics with humor and aplomb.

Kings at South Coast Repertory, 655 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa, (714) 708-5555, www.scr.org. 7:30 p.m. Through Nov. 10. $20-$66. —AIMEE MURILLO

THE COACH HOUSE
www.thecoachhouse.com

TICKETS and DINNER RESERVATIONS: 949-496-8930

11/16 JOHN MAYALL

11/19 MICHAEL TOMLINSON

11/20 & 11/21 TODD RUNDGREN

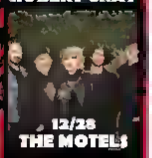
11/29 BAND OF FRIENDS (A Celebration of Ronny Gallagher)

12/2 DWEEZIL ZAPPA

12/9 SQUIRREL NUT ZIPPERS

12/9 DAVE ALVIN JIMMIE DALE GILMORE

12/15 ROBERT CRAY


12/28 THE MOTELS

1/4 PONCHO SANCHEZ

1/16 BUCKCHERRY

1/17 THE MAGPIE SALUTE

10/25	TAB BENOIT		
10/26	FIVE FOR FIGHTING		
10/27	BEE GEES GOLD The Tribute		
10/28	COMEDY NIGHT w/ Doug Starks		
10/31	DINGO BOINGO DANCE PARTY		
11/2	DAVID BRIGHTON'S SPACE ODDITY		
11/3	AMBROSIA		
11/7	WILLIE K / ERIC SARDINAS		
11/9	AMERICA		
11/10	AMERICA		
11/11	RICKIE LEE JONES		
11/14	THE WIND AND THE WAVE		
11/15	THE KINGSTON TRIO		
11/16	JOHN MAYALL		
11/17	An Evening with RICHIE FURAY		
11/18	MICHAEL TOMLINSON		
11/20	An Unpredictable Evening with TODD RUNDGREN		
11/21	An Unpredictable Evening with TODD RUNDGREN		
11/23	LA GUNS		
11/24	SIMPLE MAN (Lynyrd Skynyrd Tribute)		
11/29	BAND OF FRIENDS (A Celebration of Ronny Gallagher)		
11/30	DSB		
12/1	WHICH ONE'S PINK?		
12/2	DWEEZIL ZAPPA		
12/5	SQUIRREL NUT ZIPPERS		
12/6	JONNY LANG / Zane		
12/7	JONNY LANG / Zane		
12/8	LED ZEPAGAIN		
12/9	DAVE ALVIN and JIMMIE DALE GILMORE		
12/14	GARY Ho Ho HOEY		
12/15	ROBERT CRAY		
12/18	PROJECT PRESLEY (Elvis Presley Tribute)		
12/21	BERLIN		
12/22	THE ENGLISH BEAT		
12/23	An Evening with DAVID BENOIT: CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS		
12/27	JONAVON FRANKENREITER		
12/28	MARTHA DAVIS and THE MOTELS		

UPCOMING SHOWS

12/28	QUEEN NATION	2/10	THE SMITHEREENS with Guest Vocalist MARSHALL CRENSHAW
12/31	BEATLES VS STONES – A Musical Showdown	2/14	OTTMAR LIEBERT & LUNA NEGRA
1/4	PONCHO SANCHEZ	2/24	THE FOUR FRESHMEN
1/12	DESPERADO	3/1	TINSLEY ELLIS / COCO MONTOYA
1/16	BUCKCHERRY	3/10	THE SPINNERS
1/17	THE MAGPIE SALUTE	3/21	ULI JON ROTH
1/23	THE Stone Foxes	3/22	SUPER DIAMOND
1/25	BIG HEAD TODD & THE MONSTERS	4/12	An Evening with THE MUSICAL BOX
1/26	TOMMY CASTRO	5/25	DICK DALE
1/27	JD SOUTHER	6/7	ASIA ft. John Payne
2/1	ANNA NALICK	8/20	HERMAN'S HERMITS
2/2	THE TUBES	8/21	HERMAN'S HERMITS
2/8	THE DAN BAND		
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OC WEEKLY Bulletin

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Upcoming Events

Black Star Canyon Ghost Walk
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Friday 10/26 - Saturday 10/27
Wednesday 10/31
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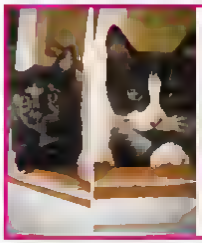
Dia De Los Muertos Car Show & Concert
Hosted by Oldskool Entertainment
& The Orange County Market Place
Sunday 10/28
10AM - 4PM

Messages



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EDWIN GOEI

Something Fishy This Way Comes

Ocean Snack specializes in all things fish cake

BY EDWIN GOEI

There's something unusual at the Source's food court in Buena Park, a mall that already trades in unusual food. It's called Ocean Snack, and it serves burgers and hot dogs, but nothing like you've ever seen at an American ballpark. The meat inside the buns is made of wild Alaskan pollock, pureed into paste and formed into shapes that not only function as the protein for these sandwiches, but also emulate fried pork cutlets in curry rice bowls, get skewered onto sticks for something called kkochi, and are wrapped around seaweed with blocks of rice for musubis.

Although this entire mall-food-court concept is centered on this product—trademarked as AlFi, a portmanteau of Alaskan Fish—the place can also be thought of as a culinary portmanteau in and of itself, as it's a blend of an American fast-food joint and a Korean street-hawker stall. The burgers and hot dogs it offers are shown in food-styled glamour shots on a menu marquee worthy of McDonald's. But at the counter, next to the register, there are wire racks stocked with golden-fried morsels of the mystery meat in all sizes and shapes—the kind you'd randomly encounter at an Asian night market.

No matter what you end up having here, it will involve AlFi, which is really just Korean fish cake reconfigured in Willy Wonka ways. In the hot dog, the AlFi recipe has onions, mushrooms, green onions and bell peppers mixed into it. Extruded into a tube, fried and tucked inside a bun as if it were a Hebrew National, the hot dog can then be zigzagged with an array of ketchups, mustards and mayos from plastic squeeze bottles. For a nominal fee, you could have it topped with diced kimchi and something called "seaweed crunch," battered and deep-fried swatches of nori that are the closest thing to a fish chicharrón. You could also opt for a combo deal in which two of the hot dogs are paired with a drink and seaweed crunch on the side as chips.

When you eat the hot dog, you'll find it springy, with a texture that registers as some sort of sausage in your mouth. The flavor, however, is distinctly of fish, or at least an umami-packed fish product. Topped with the kimchi as its sauerkraut, you can imagine it as a foodstuff from a Bizarro World where pigs, chickens and cows don't exist.

The panko-breaded AlFi patty that floats atop the katsu curry bowl is more discreet in its fishiness. Perhaps it's because any protein paired with Japanese-style curry—the same kind that moistens and flavors the rice and protein at every restaurant that serves it—ends up playing a secondary role. The bowl has the curry smothering a generous mound of rice that fills you up before you can get through even half of it.

If you're not hungry enough for a full meal, you could choose something to nibble on from the display counter of fried food that's officially called "Hot Barz." There's at least a dozen different options to choose from, including a golden-fried wedge that suspiciously resembles a slice of pizza. Bite into it, and cheese oozes out from between two sandwiching layers of AlFi. There's even a version of a danger dog, in which a fish dog is swaddled in bacon before being deep-fried.

All of it is probably better than the kkochi. These skewers of fish cake—here shaped into balls, cubes and floppy sheets—are served in a cup of broth in which it was simmered in a bigger pot and already surrendered all of its flavor to hours ago. It's still a good alternative if you want something that isn't a hot dog or deep-fried. Since it's essentially a portable form of the Japanese dish oden, the broth sips and soothes like a good stock.

There are distinctly Korean dishes here, too, such as a tteok-bokki, those tubular rice cakes with a forever chew that's kept warm with a gochujang-based sauce in a crock pot. And if you're wondering what the colorful "Haecho" bowl is all about, the word means "seaweed." So when you order one, it will most definitely include a good portion of the same kind of marinated seaweed you see at sushi bars, but also all the vegetables from refrigerated trays that's there for exactly this purpose.

From fast-food staples to a veggie-laden bowl that's virtually health food, Ocean Snack has it all—so long as you're not craving meat from something that moos, oinks or clucks.

OCEAN SNACK
6924 Beach Blvd., Ste. K333, Buena Park, (714) 690-1458, alfisnack.com. Open daily, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Meals, $2.99-$8.99. No alcohol.

WHAT THE ALE
» GREG NAGEL

Costa Mesa Beer Trail

Some time ago, I coined the term "The LaPalma Beer Trail" for the eight breweries along a 5-mile stretch through Placentia and Anaheim. Little did I know the appellation would catch on, causing a fun collaborative event in which you could earn an Untappd badge while tasting the local liquids.

Well, OC has another beer trail: a quarter-mile-long stretch of Randolph Street in Costa Mesa holds upward of 60 beers and some of the tastiest bites in the county.

I recommend starting at **Gunwhale Ales** *(2960 Randolph Ave., Ste. A, Costa Mesa, 949-239-9074, www.gunwhaleales.com)*. Though it closes early on weekends, it has a nice patio area from which to watch the sun set while sipping hoppy IPAs and stellar saisons.

Right across the street is **Barley Forge Brewing Co.** *(2957 Randolph Ave., Ste. D, Costa Mesa, 714-641-2084, barleyforge.com)*, which has not only award-winning beer, but also a kitchen that sizzles up proper beer-drinking food. Plan your crawl during some of its fun events that include trivia or live music.

Walk off your food as you head to **Bootlegger's Brewery**'s newest location *(696 Randolph Ave., Ste. B, Costa Mesa, www.bootleggersbrewery.com)*, its third tasting room outside of its Fullerton production facility, the original, tiny seven-barrel brewhouse from when the family-owned operation opened 10 years ago. Try the new Brut IPA, or stick to Bootlegger's classic Black Phoenix Coffee Chipotle stout.

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GREG NAGEL

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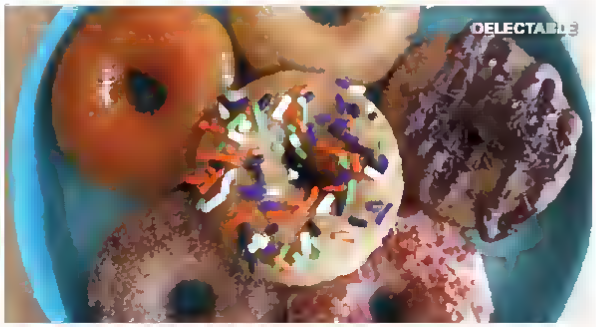

ERIN DEWITT

Fresh and Fun

Do Good Donuts & Treats are made-to-order

LONG BEACH LUNCH
» ERIN DEWITT

Long live the Long Beach doughnut shop, with its cheap coffee served in beige-patterned paper cups and sticky apple fritters the size of dinner plates. We love those. But we also love the boutique dessert shops steadily popping up around the city—the kind of places that unironically put doughnuts front and center on their menu, such as Do Good Donuts & Treats, a specialized artisan bakery that opened its doors earlier this year.

The shop outside the east border of Retro Row is small, cozy and whimsically decorated with an abstract candy-colored mural splashed across one wall. Despite being a first-time business owner, Tyler Lee has many years' experience working in small bakeries, not to mention all the time she spent in her grandma's kitchen as a child. "I wanted to create a space where people could gather and enjoy a fresh, fun take on some classic treats," she says. "There was nothing like this in L.B. This area was always my ideal location for a shop."

Lee's doughnut menu is simple and well-curated: four permanent flavors and two seasonal monthly flavors, each for just $1.25 (or $7.50 for a "flight" of one of each). She also offers a weekly selection of soft-serve ice cream, which always includes a vegan option. (Heads up for Halloween. This week features salted-caramel ice cream and vegan chocolate-and-peanut butter. Get the two swirled together for a cool riff on a candy-bar combo.) And, of course, there's the ever-essential coffee, which may be ordered hot or as a cold-brew latte with fancy syrup options such as almond-rose and caramel. Other staples include tea, hot chocolate and kombucha.

But as popular and photo-op-worthy as the pastel-colored soft-serve is (just check out the Instagram page), Do Good's doughnuts are the star here. Mini in size, a perfect three-bite treat, you could polish off a dozen (for just $13!) without really hurting yourself. I know because I wanted to eat that many, but I only ate six. Plus, they're made to order—cooked, then glazed, sprinkled or schmeared while you wait.

The base is a from-scratch nutmeg-and-vanilla-spiced cake that is light and moist. Lee accentuates the sweetness with an assortment of toppings, from the traditional cinnamon-dusted sugar doughnut to the Vanilla Bean & Sprinkles doughnut that's topped with a delightful glistening glaze (and, for October, Halloween-colored sprinkles) to top-seller Local Honey & Sea Salt, featuring honey from Long Beach-based S&P Honey and a scattering of crunchy salt flakes. Rounding out the regular lineup is the ATGT ("All the Good Things"), which is dipped in cinnamon sugar and coffee, drizzled with honey and Nutella, then sprinkled with Himalayan sea salt and chocolate sprinkles. Good God, would it be obscene if I just smeared this all over my face?

October's specials include Pumpkin Glaze and Maple Bacon, and while these may not exactly be cutting-edge autumn flavors, each pillowy fried circle is executed with perfectly balanced flavors. They're decadent and sweet, but not cloyingly so.

And lest you think Do Good is just a clever name, the team likes to partner with other local organizations and small businesses to help spread good vibes. "I'm currently collaborating with the Caffeinated Cork," Lee says. "They're doing an inspiring women's talk series, ranging from topics of the working woman to everyday feminism, and bringing women together to build community and have great conversation, which is easy to do over doughnuts."

DO GOOD DONUTS & TREATS
2707 E. Fourth St., Long Beach, (562) 588-9328, www.dogooddonuts.com

PHOTOS BY GREG NAGEL

Progressive Cuisine

Mischievous veggies await at Ocean at Main

Seated fountainside on Ocean at Main's tiled patio, one can nearly smell the swells off Laguna's Main Beach. But here, the waves are created by chef Craig Strong's California cuisine. Just when I thought you could hear a culinary pin drop in this artsy seaside city, Strong's menu eats like a gastropub for people who are sick of marrow, poutine and *OK Computer*

Take, for instance, his roasted beet salad, a dish that is rated G on paper, yet on arrival, I nearly had to cover my daughter's tweeny-bopper eyes. Plump, roasted heirloom beets are there, sure, but an unexpected play on beef tartare that is suitable for vegans highlights the dish, complete with a pureed beet "yolk" that has undergone a bit of molecular gastronomy called spherification, which gives it a satisfying pokable skin. Although I have a strict rule of never photographing salads, this dish was like, "Photograph me like one of your French salads" I turned beet red as I snapped away

Strong's influences are on full display at Ocean at Main. His tenure at Laguna's Montage allowed him to erect a thousand-foot on-site garden, a throwback to his childhood, as he picked in the fields at an early age. Although he can't do the same at this new place, he notes, "I've been sourcing from the same local organic and biodynamic farmers over the past decade." Prior to Montage, he worked at a resort in Barcelona, Spain, where coastal Catalan cuisine is a way of life, such as with his Catalan bread tartine, charred Spanish octopus and incredible spiced Morro Bay cod. If you're looking for a bit of northern Spain on a plate, give these gorgeous dishes a try

Laguna Beach has limited bar options, with a trifecta of local independent craft beers, curated wines and a destination-worthy craft-cocktail list. Regardless of what Strong is firing up in the kitchen, Ocean at Main's bar program on its own is worth a pregame/postgame day on the beach. Although there's no happy hour (or brunch) as of yet, the $12 to $14 tag on the cocktails isn't bad considering its vicinity to Laguna's historic lifeguard tower

On my way into town, I thought someone had hacked the blinking road sign that read, "Smoking ban in Laguna in effect," so seeing something called No Smoking in Laguna on the cocktail menu made me do a double-take. I ordered one, proving if there's a ban on something, you end up craving it. The drink, which has Xicaru Mezcal, Arette tequila and pineapple, plus a plump candied-pineapple garnish, is smoky and delicious!

Go before Laguna also bans drinking — or eating really good food.

EAT & DRINK THIS NOW
» GREG NAGEL

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UNDER THE TREE TRIMMING

COURTESY OF MAGNOLIA PICTURES

Wide World of Cinema

From OC Film Fiesta to your living room

BY MATT COKER

OC Film Fiesta 2018 started last weekend with solid movies from last year and around the globe, including Christopher Glenn Cannon's horror flick *The House That the Devil Built* (USA), Humberto Hinojosa Ozcariz's award-winning road picture *Camino a Marte* (*Road to Mars*) (Mexico) and a free outdoor screening of Jang Hoon's *A Taxi Driver* (South Korea). Media Arts Santa Ana's ninth-annual event maintains a strong world-cinema vibe as it enters its final weekend.

Friday brings a free showing under Buena Park skies of *Macario*, a 1960 Mexican classic about a poor, hungry peasant who meets three apparitions on *Día de los Muertos*. By the end, the poor soul will be on his way to riches—and under suspicion.

Saturday's lineup inside the same Orange cineplex includes *The Good the Bad the Weird* (11 a.m.), Jee-woon Kim's 2008 western about two outlaws and a bounty hunter being pursued in 1940s Manchuria, *Equal Means Equal* (2 p.m.), Kamala Lopez's 2016 documentary about how the U.S. Constitution holds down women, *Flavor of Life* (4 p.m.), with special guest Pepe Serna, who stars in Rajesh Golla's dramedy as a Mexican-American chef trying to save his restaurant; *El Incidente* (*The Incident*) (6 p.m.), Isaac Ezban's 2014 Mexican sci-fi thriller with two parallel stories about people trapped in illogical endless spaces, and *Roma* (8 p.m.), Alfonso Cuarón's new drama that follows a year in the life of a middle-class Mexico City family in the early 1970s.

OC Film Fiesta actually scored a coup getting a sneak preview showing of *Roma*, which is not due in mainstream theaters or on Netflix until December. Produced by Participant Media and Cuarón's own Esperanto Filmo, *Roma* honors women from the director's childhood who shaped his world. The Oscar-winning director of 2014's *Gravity* shot the film in luminous black and white, which should help audiences place the intimate, gut-wrenching story in the past.

Media Arts Santa Ana's cinextravaganza ends in its home city Sunday with *Challah Rising In the Desert* (1:30 p.m.), Isaac Artenstein's new documentary celebrating the history and people of New Mexico's Jewish community (paging Marc Maron), The Best of Philip K. Dick Festival (3:15 p.m.), short films based on the stories of the late sci-fi/dystopian legend and longtime Orange County resident; *This Taco Truck Kills Fascists* (7:30 p.m.), with special guest Jose Torres Tama, the performance artist featured in director Rodrigo Dorfman's new documentary making its West Coast premiere.

A scan of the OC Film Fiesta 2018 lineup produced no movies from Iceland, where a lack of sustained sunlight must have contributed to a certain black comedy being as black as black can be. Hafsteinn Gunnar Sigurðsson's *Under the Tree* begins with cringe-worthy comedy as Agnes (Lára Jóhanna Jónsdóttir) catches her husband, Atli (Steinþór Hróar Steinþórsson), jacking off to porn in their Reykjavík flat. The identity of the couple Atli watches go at it on his computer prompts Agnes to throw him out and eventually launch a fierce custody battle over their young daughter.

Atli winds up at the nearby home of his parents, who are embroiled in a war of their own. His mother, Inga (Edda Björgvinsdóttir), and father, Baldvin (Sigurður Sigurjónsson), are literally throwing shade on their next-door neighbors. A backyard tree in desperate need of trimming casts such a large shadow that it ruins the sunbathing sessions of Eybjorg (Selma Björnsdottir), who complains to her husband, Konrad (Þorsteinn Bachmann), to do something about it.

Konrad tries to politely reason with Inga and Baldvin, but she has lingering animosity over her neighbor having divorced his wife and married the younger Eybjorg, who, besides tanning, is into fitness. Inga also deals with early dementia, which, along with her bitterness over Eybjorg and mourning for a second son, contributes to a minor spat over a tree escalating into a disturbing tit-for-tat that ends tragically (and for viewers, graphically).

Sigurðsson, working off a script he co-wrote with Huldar Breiðfjörð, lets the events unfold slowly, at the speed of life. That lulls the viewer into a state in which the surprise twists and turns pack mighty wallops. It brings to mind the comedic elements in the first two acts of Hitchcock movies, which the master totally abandoned in the third act.

OC Film Fiesta 2019, I believe we have found your Icelandic entry.

MCOKER@OCWEEKLY.COM

OC FILM FIESTA

at the Source OC, first-floor Step Plaza, 6940 Beach Blvd., Buena Park, (714) 521-8858, www.thesourceoc.com. Fri., 7 p.m. Free; AMC Orange 30 at the Outlets, 20 City Blvd. W., Orange, (714) 769-4288; www.ocfilmfiesta.org. Sat., beginning at 11 a.m. $3-$10; Santa Ana High School, 520W. Walnut St., Santa Ana. Sun., beginning at 1:30 p.m. Free-$10; festival passes, $75 or two for $125.

UNDER THE TREE

is available now on Digital HD from Magnolia Home Entertainment.

Looking for Mother?

BY MATT COKER

The Exorcist. It's an extended director's cut of William Friedkin's 1973 horror masterpiece. *The Frida Cinema, 305 E. Fourth St., Santa Ana, thefridacinema.org. Thurs.-Fri., Oct. 25-26, 2:30, 5:30 & 8:30 p.m. $7-$10.*

Halloween. John Carpenter's 1978 horror classic is presented to raise restoration money for the Fox Fullerton Theatre, and a 40th anniversary remastered version is shown as part of an annual Halloween tradition at Frida. *Fox Fullerton Theatre, 500 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton, foxfullerton.org. Thurs., Oct. 25, 7 p.m. $10, also at the Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Tues., 2:30, 5:30, 8 & 10 p.m., Wed., 5:30 & 8 p.m. $7-$10; and at the Art Theatre, 2025 E. Fourth St., Long Beach, (562) 438-5435. Wed., 9 p.m. $8.50-$11.50.*

Night of the Living Dead. A disparate group of folks take refuge in an abandoned house to avoid flesh eaters roaming the countryside in George Romero's 1968 zombie flick, restored and remastered in 4K Ultra HD. *Various theaters, www.fathomevents.com. Thurs., Oct. 25, 7 & 10 p.m. $12.50.*

RWBY Volume 6. The newest episode of the popular anime. *Various theaters; www.fathomevents.com. Thurs., Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m. $12.50.*

Bombs Away Live! *Death Spa.* First, watch Michael Fischa's 1989 horror flick. Then, see and hear the *Bombs Away* podcast hosts rip the B-movie. Next comes Frida's first Halloween party. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Thurs., Oct. 25, 8 p.m. $15.*

From Incarceration to Education. Delve into the lives of formerly incarcerated students attending UC Berkeley. *UC Irvine, Student Center, Doheny Beach A, 311 W. Peltason Dr., Irvine, (949) 824-5252. Fri., 11 a.m. Free.*

The Fog. John Carpenter's 1980 chiller is about a creepy fog that rolls into a small seaside town. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Fri., 2, 4, 6 & 8 p.m., Sat., 12:30, 2:30, 5, 7 & 9 p.m. $7-$10.*

Hocus Pocus. Three sisters awaken 300 years after their Salem witchcraft death sentences and concoct a revenge plot that involves the town's teens. *Beachfront Cinema at Huntington State Beach, Newland and Pacific Coast Highway, Huntington Beach, beachfrontcinema.com. Fri., 5 p.m. $9.99-$19.99, also at Pelican Hill Golf Club, Driving Range, 22800 S. Pelican Hill Rd., Newport Beach, www.pelicanhill.com. Fri., 6:30 p.m. $30.*

The Rocky Horror Picture Show. Live shadow-cast troupe K.A.O.S. presents its annual Halloween Edition in Santa Ana, while Midnight Insanity does so in Long Beach. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Fri., 11:30 p.m. $7-$10; Art Theatre, (562) 438-5435. Sat., 11:55 p.m. $8.50-$11.50.*

The Met: Live in HD: *La Fanciulla del West.* Soprano Eva-Maria Westbroek sings Puccini's gun-slinging heroine in this romantic epic of the Wild West, alongside star tenor Jonas Kaufmann in the role of the outlaw Dick Johnson. *Various theaters, www.fathomevents.com. Sat., 9:55 a.m. (live), Wed., 1 & 6:30 p.m. (taped). $18-$24.*

The Shining. A writer brings his wife and son with him to look over the elegant Overlook Hotel deep in the Colorado Rockies in the wintery off-season. Let's just say things take a turn. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Sat.-Sun., 1, 4 & 7 p.m. $7-$10; also at Regency South Coast Village, 1561 W. Sunflower Ave., Santa Ana, (714) 557-5701. Wed., 7:30 p.m. $9.*

The Nightmare Before Christmas. Tim Burton's animated musical is about Halloweentown's beloved pumpkin king stumbling upon bright and happy Christmastown, which gives him a new lease on life. *Beachfront Cinema at Huntington State Beach, beachfrontcinema.com. Sat., 3 p.m. $9.99-$49.99.*

Casper. A paranormal expert and his daughter bunk in an abandoned house populated by three mischievous ghosts and one friendly one. *Etnies Skate Park, 20028 Lake Forest Dr., Lake Forest, (949) 916-5870. Sat., contest, 6 p.m., screening, 6:30 p.m. Free.*

The Room. The bizarre 2003 indie thriller was written, directed and produced by, as well as stars Tommy Wiseau. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Sat., 11 p.m. $7-$10.*

Beetlejuice. Tim Burton's 1988 paranormal comedy. *Art Theatre, (562) 438-5435; KLBPorg. Sun., 11 a.m. $8.50-$11.50.*

Let the Right One In. A mysterious child and older man move into an apartment next door to a boy who forms a bond with the girl. Meanwhile, bodies start stacking up in town. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Sun., noon, 2:30, 5, 7:45 & 10 p.m. Mon., 2:30, 5:30 & 8 p.m. $7-$10.*

Spirited Away. Chihiro's mom and dad undergo a mysterious transformation before the girl is whisked into a world of fantastic spirits, shape shifting dragons and a wicked witch. *Various theaters, www.fathomevents.com, www.ghiblifest.com. Sun., 12:55 p.m. (English-language dubbed), Mon., 7 p.m. (English-language subtitled); Wed., 7 p.m. (dubbed). $12.50.*

[REC]. A TV reporter gets much more than she bargained for when she does a ride-along with firefighters. Presented in Spanish with English subtitles. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Sun., 10:30 p.m.; Mon., 2:30, 5 & 10:30 p.m. $7-$10.*

***Nosferatu* Symphony of Horror.** F.W. Murnau's silent masterpiece of 1922 is accompanied by a live score performed by the Jack Curtis Dubowsky Ensemble. *Art Theatre, (562) 438-5435. Mon., 6:30 p.m. $8.50-$11.50.*

National Theater Live: *Frankenstein.* Danny Boyle's 2011 London stage adaptation of Mary Shelley's 1818 classic horror novel. *Various theaters, www.fathomevents.com. Mon., 7 p.m. $15.*

Pumpkinhead. A heartbroken father teams up with a local witch to summon a murderous demon, who is to kill the teens responsible for killing the dad's son. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Mon., 7:30 p.m. $10.*

Frankenstein. James Whale's 1931 horror classic. Also, Associate Professor Rebecca A. Sheehan lectures on "I've Created a Monster! Doubles and Compromised Agency in *Frankenstein* and Its Expressionist Predecessors." *Cal State Fullerton, Polk Library, 800 N. State College Blvd., Fullerton, (657) 278-2633. Tues., 5 p.m. Free.*

A Plastic Ocean. Free divers travel the Earth and discover the shocking impact plastic is having on our oceans. *Chapman University, Beckman Hall, fourth floor Smell Patio, 1 University Dr., Orange; events.chapman.edu. Tues., 7 p.m. Free.*

Russ Taff: I Still Believe. The Fusaic Entertainment documentary chronicles the multi-Grammy and Dove award winner's musical journey and behind-the-scenes battle with alcoholism. *Various theaters, www.fathomevents.com. Tues., 7 p.m. $12.50.*

Psycho. The 1960 Hitchcock classic must be among the most influential and blatantly ripped off movies of all time. *Directors Cut Cinema at Regency Rancho Niguel, 25471 Rancho Niguel Rd., Laguna Niguel, (949) 831-0446. Tues., 7:30 p.m. $8.*

SHAMLEY PRODUCTIONS

Evil Dead II. Sam Raimi's 1987 sequel adds more slapstick comedy to the horror, bringing Bruce Campbell's Ashley J. Williams character closer to the "Ash" we see in the current Starz series. *Art Theatre, (562) 438-5435. Tues., 10 p.m. $8.50-$11.50.*

Train to Busan. Yeon Sang-ho's 2016 action thriller takes place on a train as a zombie apocalypse breaks out. *UC Irvine's McCormick Screening Room, Wed., 7 p.m. Free.*

Suspiria. It's a sneak peek screening of Luca Guadagnino's new remake of Dario Argento's 1977 chiller. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Wed., 10 p.m. $7-$10.*

The Birds. Alfred Hitchcock's 1963 thriller about a newcomer arriving in a seaside burg just as immense flocks of birds attack townsfolk. *Fullerton Public Library, Osborne Auditorium, 353 W. Commonwealth Ave., Fullerton, (714) 738-6327. Thurs., Nov. 1, 1 p.m. Free.*

Anime Club. Such animes as *Bleach, Naruto, My Hero Academia, Attack On Titan* and *Sword Art Online* are streamed, and premium prizes from Crunchyroll are doled out during this program aimed at ages 13-17. *Cypress Library, 5331 Orange Ave., Cypress, (714) 826-0350. Thurs., Nov. 1, 5 p.m. Free.*

Never Heard. Josh Webber's drama has a father accused of murder and incarcerated for a crime he swears he didn't commit; his son growing up on the streets of Los Angeles without a dad's guidance; and the boy's mother and grandmother raising him alone. *Various theaters, www.fathomevents.com. Thurs., Nov. 1, 7 p.m. $12.50.*

Soufra. Mariem Shaar, who has spent all of her 69 years in a refugee camp, and other refugee women launch a catering company. *Art Theatre, (562) 438-5435. Thurs., Nov. 1, 7 p.m. $8.50-$11.50.*

MCOKER@OCWEEKLY.COM

Here and Now

Kings resonates with political junkies

BY JOEL BEERS

DEBORA ROBINSON/SCR

South Coast Repertory has long championed playwrights concerned more with the poetics than the politics of the stage. Language, voice and the spaces between words trump agenda, agitprop and overtly socially conscious plays. Its stories are usually more literate than literal, more personal than political, and any larger, universal connections they make stem from artful construction rather than obvious attempts at social relevance.

All of which make its current production of Sarah Burgess' *Kings*, which debuted earlier this year at New York City's Public Theatre, such an anomaly. It's not as if SCR has strictly avoided plays that deal with social or political concerns. (Hell, it's welcoming back the brilliant satirical, politically iconoclastic Culture Clash in late December.) In its past two seasons, four plays—*Cambodian Rock Band*, *All the Way*, *The Master Builder* and *The District Merchants*—all dealt in some fashion with complicated histories that touched upon race, war and moral corruption within a political context. But those concerns, while infusing those stories, all felt subordinate to the characters and language.

Kings doesn't. This is a play that seems to exist solely because of Trump America, Citizens United and the Divided States of America. Which means it exists because of now. Unfortunately, Burgess' exploration of now isn't interesting enough to make us care about it much.

An idealistic, stubborn-as-a-mule female person of color somehow wins a seat to Congress from a Texas district. Determined to vote on policy rather than political expedience, she finds herself immersed in a world of lobbyists and politicians whose main job is raising money for re-election rather than faithfully representing their constituents. Refusing to play along, she is rejected by everyone, including big-money donors and her own party. But riding the so-called wave of anti-establishment fervor (the grassroots kind, not the opportunistic rhetoric of a certain Twitterer-in-chief), she becomes a much bigger threat than anyone could have realized.

If you're a political junkie or one of those sad handful of Americans that watches C-Span, this is a play that will undoubtedly resonate. Burgess obviously knows her stuff, from the political intricacies of Washington, D.C., to the blood that keeps its heart beating even as it drains its soul: money. Filling her play are discussions about the behind-the-scenes machinations of lobbyists, carried interest, bill riders, legislative committees and all kinds of inside-the-Beltway stuff that policy wonks sprinkle on their K Street martinis.

But our congresswoman, Sydney Millsap (a feisty Tracey A. Leigh), isn't K Street; she's Chili's (billed as a comedy, the several scene changes to Chili's and its annoying baby-back ribs jingle are one of the few things that provoke out-loud laughter in this 100-minute play). But while Burgess tries very hard to humanize Millsap as a real person who seems hopelessly outmatched by the D.C. system but refuses to back down, it takes more than oversized margaritas and sizzling fajitas served tableside to turn her into a contemporary Mr. Smith fighting the bloated and entrenched D.C. establishment. What it takes is more Millsap, the fact that a huge part of who she is and what ultimately plays a key role in resolving this play doesn't come until the final minutes feels too late. Up until that point, Millsap seems more caricature than character, as do the other participants. Senator McDowell (SCR founding artist Richard Doyle, who gets a refreshingly large part and milks it for all its worth) and lobbyists Kate (a very talented Jules Willcox, who does everything she can to round out her ambitious and complicated, but ultimately thinly drawn, character, who, much of the time, the play seems to really be about) and Lauren (Paige Lindsey White, who seems as if she is talking more than acting much of the time, something that is more the script's fault than hers).

Caricature would be fine if this were a satire, an upraised middle finger to Washington, D.C., or even a pointed attempt at reminding us of why we should care. But *Kings* isn't. There is nothing new, provocative or particularly insightful in terms of Where We Are, How We Got Here and, far more important, How the Fuck Do We Change It. There's a reason—hell, lots of reasons—why Congress trails even TV news (!) in the dismal race to the bottom of American institutions that we trust the least. And one of those is how irrelevant it feels to the vast majority of Americans.

As smart and well-intentioned as *Kings* may be, and as contemporary as it may feel, it also feels just as irrelevant. Trump gets one thing right, if right means so terribly wrong: Politics is personal, and the more personal you make it, the more people pay attention. *Kings* needs more personal in its political—or a few artfully placed grenades to blow some shit up.

KINGS

at South Coast Repertory, 655 Town Center, Costa Mesa (714) 708-5555, www.scr.org. Tues-Thurs., 7:30 p.m., Fri., 8 p.m., Sat., 2:30 & 8 p.m., Sun., 2:30 & 7:30 p.m. Through Nov. 10. $23-$86.

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TEACHING GRASSHOPPERS HOW TO TIGER PALM

COURTESY OF GROOVE CRUISE

EDM's Floating Dojo

Mastering the art of kung fu on a cruise with Laidback Luke

BY MORENA DUWE

In a brightly lit bar on the *Norwegian Pearl* cruise liner, a raucous scene was unfolding. As the ever-present thrum of muffled dance music mingled with the sounds of boisterous conversations and laughter, the vibe was certainly not Zen. But amidst the inebriated party-goers with bedazzled breasts and furry boots, Lucas Cornelis van Scheppingen (better known as Laidback Luke) moved through his martial-arts routine with grace and serenity like a gently swaying palm tree in the middle of a hurricane. Completely unperturbed by the debauchery, he was warming up to teach a kung fu class.

"The class was pretty chaotic," Scheppingen says afterward. "There was so much noise and lots of drunk people, but it was lots of fun, and I was just happy they wanted to participate. It was much more chaotic than classes I usually teach, but I hope they left the class feeling revitalized."

Clearly not a standard cruise, Groove Cruise is the original floating dance-music festival that boasts a colorful lineup of the genre's legends and up-and-comers. In addition to the fact that it takes place on the ocean, what makes the festival unique is the opportunity it gives attendees to interact with the artists on the lineup. You could partake in a blackjack tournament hosted by German DJ duo Cosmic Gate, show off your skills in a ping-pong tournament with house-music hero Shiba San or play beer pong with trance master Factor B. In the case of Laidback Luke, attendees were able to test their might in a kung fu class taught by a black belt who also happens to be a world-renowned DJ who'd be performing later that night.

Participants filed in shouting and slurring *Mortal Kombat* quotes, but Scheppingen, who takes his kung fu practice very seriously, did not go easy on the hyped-up crowd of rowdy festival-goers. Beginning with a series of breathing exercises, the class got progressively harder as participants did squats, pushups and jumping roundhouse kicks. Despite the challenges—and the soreness that lasted for days after—there was no shortage of laughter and tomfoolery.

Kung fu is much more than a fun hobby for Scheppingen. He studied karate for most of his youth, quickly moving up the ranks, and by the time he was 14, Scheppingen was on the verge of earning his black belt. Around the same time, electronic music was having its renaissance, and he became enamored with its infectious beats and colorful community. Just before he was to take his black belt exam, he quit karate to begin making music.

Ten years later, he had found meteoric success in his musical career and was living the tumultuous life of a world-touring DJ. When he was not performing, he was in the studio producing music and living a mostly sedentary life. He realized he wanted to bring martial arts back into his routine and began practicing kung fu. For the past 18 years, he has incorporated it into his daily life. "I discovered that it goes so much deeper than just motor skills," he says. "[Kung fu] goes into mental health, it goes into growth and progression as a person. It's been keeping me sane especially in this crazy DJ life. It keeps me down to earth, it keeps me being able to keep up and to keep calm.

"On tour, I do my kung fu practice as well, and sometimes, I'll just sleep for four hours and set my alarm for an early kung fu training," he continues. "Sometimes, when I get up, I just want to skip it, but I never let myself. When I stand up and start doing the breathing exercises, I'm ready to take it on, and after I finish my practice, I'm revitalized and can tackle the day."

While the DJ world certainly has its glamor, it's also extremely taxing both physically and mentally. The traveling, the partying, the late nights, and the constant pressure to perform and maintain that lifestyle can do serious harm to the psyche, as evidenced by the untimely passing of Swedish superstar Avicii (née Tim Bergling) earlier this year. Since his death, the music industry has been under heavy scrutiny for the inhumane way the DJ was treated, which many people have speculated contributed to his demise.

Over the years, Scheppingen has become an advocate for mental-health awareness. After being in the DJ industry for 25 years, he has seen it at its best and worst, and he has made it a priority to balance his health, career and fatherhood. "What I recently learned is that I have my limits," says Scheppingen. "It was only two weeks ago that I had a major anxiety attack, and it was about a decade since I had my last one. That showed me that I need to have a day a week where I do absolutely nothing and not be on social media because I think social media is very much affecting a lot of people's mental health. I feel like we need to keep on communicating about mental health, and I always suggest that everyone, especially touring DJs, take up a practice like yoga or kung fu where you can just settle into yourself and get rid of all that anxiety."

Though most of the Groove Cruise attendees are not living a life as hectic as that of a famous DJ, they are still partying heavily and have likely been doing so for a very long time. Taking a time-out from the debauchery to do kung fu undoubtedly made a positive impact on their weekend. Those who participated gave their bodies and minds a chance to move, breathe and learn a new skill. "This is my first Groove Cruise, and I think it's incredible, such a great crowd," Scheppingen says. "It's like one big, happy rave family. What I love as well is that it's an older crowd. These people have been partying a long time, so I think the kung fu class was great for them. I am always down to teach and to share my passion with people."

If taking a kung fu class from a famous DJ on a music-festival cruise was not already on your bucket list, it should be.

LETTERS@OCWEEKLY.COM

COURTESY OF DARK CRAFT DESSERTS

Devil's Food

Dark Craft Desserts delivers a slice of heavy-metal sweetness

BY ALEX DISTEFANO

Among the countless bakeries located within Orange County, only one has the power to brighten the day of the blackest of souls. Located in a semi-industrial shopping center in Los Alamitos, Dark Craft Desserts specializes in heavy-metal-themed cookies, brownies, cakes and more, all baked to order.

Dark Craft Desserts' owner/executive pastry chef/decorator Amanda Kologie creates diabolical desserts with logos and artwork by bands such as Mercyful Fate, Megadeth, Venom, Sadistic Intent, Immortal, Emperor, Infernal Majesty and more in an industrial kitchen. Though it doesn't have a storefront, treats can be ordered online, then picked up or delivered within a 20-mile radius.

After graduating from culinary school in 2013, Kologie moved to SoCal from New Mexico. "I worked at Porto's, the Marriot Hotel and at Angels Stadium as a pastry cook," she recalls.

A couple of years ago, she and fellow baker and test taster Arthur M. began baking metal-themed goodies for fun. "I love metal; I have been listening to it my entire life," Kologie says. "Arthur and I always play metal when we are here baking, either CDs or a soundtrack."

The duo would take their custom-designed baked goods to shows, where they would get noticed. "People were excited," she recalls. "We got a few people asking, ordering, and after a while, it took off."

Dark Craft Desserts soon got a business license, built a website and began using social media to promote its tasty artwork. "Social media is a very big part of the business," Kologie says. "I think Instagram has been the best tool for us."

Though its metalhead aesthetic is what sets Dark Craft Desserts apart, it also functions as a traditional bakery, offering pies, cheesecakes, cinnamon rolls, even wedding cakes. "We do a lot of cakes for little kids' birthday parties," Kologie says. "From Hot Wheels to Moana to Dragonball Z and Pokémon, we do it all."

As interest in the bakery grows, its wares have begun popping up in more places. Dark Craft Desserts has been available at music festivals such as Psycho Las Vegas and the California Death Fest. It has also been collaborating with heavy-metal hamburger joint Grill 'Em All in Alhambra, for which Kologie created Immortal Brownies for an album release party and a Carcass-themed cake designed with the legendary U.K. death-metal group's 2013 album, *Surgical Steel*, in mind. "We'll also have an Alice in Chains cake coming out soon," she says, "which is cool."

DARK CRAFT DESSERTS will be at the San Diego Metal Swap Meet at Setting Sun Sake Brewing Co., 8680 Miralani Dr., Ste. 120, San Diego. Sun., 10 a.m. For more information on Dark Craft Desserts, visitdarkcraftdesserts.com.

CITY NATIONAL GROVE OF ANAHEIM
Friday, October 26
Saturday, October 27
HENRY ROLLINS TRAVEL SLIDESHOW 2018
Tuesday, October 30
ANTHONY JESELNIK FUNNY GAMES 2018 WORLD TOUR
Friday, November 2
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WHOSE LIVE ANYWAY?
Saturday, November 3
GENERATION AXE
STEVE VAI ZAKK WYLDE YNGWIE MALMSTEEN BRUCE KULICK TOSIN ABASI
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concert guide»

SAM JONES

Friday

AGENT ORANGE, UK SURS, GUTTERMOUTH, THE SPOOKY 8 p.m. $22-$25. 21+. Alex's Bar, 2313 E. Anaheim St., Long Beach, (562) 434-8292, www.alexsbar.com.

CONJUNTO PRIMAVERA 8 p.m. $40-$50. all ages. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Anaheim. (714) 778-2583, www.houseofblues.com/anaheim

HALLOWEEN SHOW 6 p.m., $5, all ages. Garden Amp, 12762 Main St., Garden Grove. (949) 415-8544, gardenamp.com.

LUCKY CHOPS 9 p.m., $15, all ages. The Constellation Room, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600, www.observatoryoc.com.

TRICKS AND TREATS: THE SUGAR DO THE WHITE STRIPES, CASEY SNYDER & FRIENDS DO THE R-52S, SEGA GENECIDE DO SMASHING PUMPKINS, APOLLO REBOP DO '90S HIP-HOP MASHUP 8:30 p.m., $8. 21+. The Wayfarer, 843 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa, (949) 764-0039, www.wayfarercm.com.

Saturday

15TH ANNUAL DIA DE LOS CUERPOS, WITH J SKILLZ, DJ RENNETT 9 p.m. $10. 21+. The Wayfarer, 843 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa. (949) 764-0039, www.wayfarercm.com

FYGGY FEST 2 p.m. $5-$8. all ages. Garden Amp, 12762 Main St., Garden Grove. (949) 415-8544, gardenamp.com.

MESSER CHUPS 9 p.m. $13. 21+. Marty's On Newport, 14401 Newport Ave., Tustin, (714) 544-1995, www.martysonnewport.com

SURF CITY BLITZ: THE OFFSPRING, PENNYWISE, SUICIDAL TENDENCIES, AND MORE. noon. $49.50, all ages. Huntington State Beach, 21601 Pacific Coast Hwy., Huntington Beach, surfcityblitz.com.

TROYE SIVAN 6:30 p.m. $42.50, all ages. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Anaheim. (714) 778-2583, www.houseofblues.com/anaheim

UK SURS, AGENT ORANGE, GUTTERMOUTH 8 p.m. $15. all ages. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana. (714) 957-0600, www.observatoryoc.com.

Sunday

THE ADICTS: 8 p.m., $25, all ages. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583, www.houseofblues.com/anaheim

RØRNS, TWIN SHADOW 8 p.m. $31, all ages. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600, www.observatoryoc.com

MAC SABBATH, FRANK AND OEANS; ICKY AND THE SPLOOGES 8 p.m. $15. 21+. Alex's Bar, 2313 E. Anaheim St., Long Beach, (562) 434-8292, www.alexsbar.com

PENDULUM (DJ SET) 9 p.m., $35. 21+. Marty's On Newport, 14401 Newport Ave., Tustin. (714) 544-1995, www.martysonnewport.com.

SURF CITY BLITZ: SOCIAL DISTORTION, RANCID, BAD RELIGION, AND MORE. noon, $49.50, all ages. Huntington State Beach, 21601 Pacific Coast Hwy., Huntington Beach, surfcityblitz.com

Monday

DAVIS, OE PALMA 8 p.m. free. 21+. The Wayfarer, 843 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa. (949) 764-0039, www.wayfarercm.com.

DENZEL CURRY, KID TRUNKS 8 p.m., $18.50-$75. all ages. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600, www.observatoryoc.com.

Tuesday

HELLOGOODBYE 9 p.m. $20. 21+. Marty's On Newport, 14401 Newport Ave., Tustin. (714) 544-1995, www.martysonnewport.com.

WOLFMOTHER. 8 p.m., $35. all ages. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana. (714) 957-0600, www.observatoryoc.com

Wednesday

BEARTOOTH 6:30 p.m., $25, all ages. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583, hanseofblues.com/anaheim

CHOLO GOTH HALLOWEEN: DAVE PARLEY OF PRAYERS (DJ SET) 10:30 p.m., $5, 21+. Marty's On Newport, 14401 Newport Ave., Tustin, (714) 544-1995, www.martysonnewport.com

THE PUSCIE JONES REVUE 8 p.m. $8. 21+. The Wayfarer, 843 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa, (949) 764-0039, www.wayfarercm.com.

Thursday, Nov. 1

R KALACAS 8 p.m., $8. 21+. Marty's On Newport, 14401 Newport Ave., Tustin, (714) 544-1995, www.martysonnewport.com

KIP MOORE: 6:30 p.m. $35, all ages. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Anaheim (714) 778-2583, www.hansoftblues.com/anaheim.

RIX9INE 8 p.m., $69. all ages. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana. (714) 957-0600, www.observatoryoc.com

OCWEEKLY HALLOWEEN GUIDE

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anaheimfallfestival.org/parade/
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Etnieskatepark.com
20028 Lake Forest Dr.

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Meow and Forever

Hi, Dan: I am a homosexual young adult seeking advice about kitten play. I find it very intriguing, and I'm wondering where to start. It's a turn-on when someone calls me kitten, but I'm not sure how to express my kink or desire for kink play to the person or persons I am into. Any advice would be appreciated.

Constructive Advice Thoughtfully Sought

Hi, CATS: I am a homosexual not-so-young adult without much advice to offer where kitten play is concerned. I've encountered plenty of gay puppies in the wild—at various leather/fetish events—but I've seen only one fetish kitty in my lifetime, and she was a queen. (A female cat is called a queen, a male cat is called a tom, and a group of cats is called a glare. #TheMoreYouKnow!)

But Amp Somers, who hosts the kink-friendly sex-ed show *Watts the Safeword*, assures me that gay kitties are definitely a thing.

"Kitten play is a subcategory of the 'animal role-play' or 'pet play' kink," said Somers. "It's a form of domination and submission in which someone gets into the head space of an animal they are role-playing and takes on its characteristics—be it with gear (masks, tails, collars) or by acting out the mannerisms of their animal. Most important, and this goes for all proper pet players, there are no actual animals involved in this play."

Puppy play is the most common form of pet play—by far—and it's very popular among younger gay kinksters. (Please don't confuse gay pups or kitties with gay bears or otters. The former is about role-play and fetish; the latter is about body type, affirmation and community.) But what accounts for the popularity of pet play among younger kinksters?

"This sort of play allows someone to get into kink easily with or without a partner and in a playful manner," said Somers. "Pet play allows players to get their feet wet in the BDSM world without having to visit a dark dungeon, get tied up, or engage in anything a newer kinkster might find intimidating. It's a great entry level kink."

As for expressing your kink, CATS, that's something you're going to have to work out on your own.

"I imagine CATS already has an image of what kitten play looks like to them, and I bet it differs from what I might imagine my own pet play would look like or even from what readers imagine a kitten player to look like," said Somers. "Is CATS a domesticated lazy kitten who lies in the sun? A curious, well-trained, docile cat responsive to cuddles and treats? Or are they a rambunctious, bratty/independent stray?"

To find your way into the kink scene, Somers recommends getting online.

"That's how I first found pet play," he said. "Sites like kitten-play.com offer in-depth written pieces by players, links to resources and forums where people like CATS can educate themselves. Other sites like FetLife or Facebook provide more private groups to 'meet' others, ask more in-depth questions, find local get-togethers and make friends to socialize with. Or if they prefer video content, YouTube has a number of creators (like Scream Kiwi) who talk about their kinks in a fun, educational and personal way. And once CATS feels comfortable in their own identity and has defined what they want out of this play, they will be able to really communicate to their partner(s) what they're into and what they want out of kitten play."

Check out Amp Somers' *Watts the Safeword* at youtube.com/WattsTheSafeword, and follow him on Twitter @Pup_Amp.

I'm a gay male, and one of my good friends has put me in a strange position. The friend has been married to his husband for 15 years, and they are allowed to "play." I have an desire to be in an open relationship, and I don't think my boyfriend does either. I occasionally go over to this friend's house right after work to buy weed, and he's always alone when I come by. He joked about answering the door naked, and then did it. (He told me he was going to—he honestly didn't think he would do it.) I was extremely uncomfortable, and he knew it. The last time I went over, he was naked again—and this time, he jerked off to completion in front of me. He asked me to join in, and I told him I couldn't because I hadn't discussed anything like this with my boyfriend. I'm supposed to go over again tomorrow, and he asked me to come by early because his husband would be getting home from work early this day. This leads me to believe that the husband would not be okay with this. I haven't said anything to his husband or my boyfriend because I don't want this to become a huge mess, and I hoped my palpable discomfort would put an end to it. Any thoughts on how I should handle this nicely to make it stop without hurting his feelings?

Undressed Naked Friend Really Is Engineering Needless Drama

Your "good friend" is an asshole. UNFRIEND. He's violating a whole bunch of social norms—chiefly the don't-jerk-off-to-completion-in-front-of-other-people-without-their-enthusiastic-consent norm (a k.a. the Louis C.K. Career-In-Comedy-Memorial-Norm)—and relying on your adherence to other social norms (avoid being rude, defuse, don't confront, spare others' feelings) to get away with violating you as well. This asshole is sexually harassing you, and you haven't told him to stop in unambiguous language.

The only reason you've given him for not whipping it out yourself is that you haven't "discussed anything like this with [your] boyfriend." He has self-servingly interpreted your reason for not joining in like this: "He wants to, and maybe he will after he has a discussion" with his boyfriend." I'm sorry, UNFRIEND, but you're going to have to be blunt: "You have to knock this shit off. It's disrespectful, it's nonconsensual, and it's pissing me off." Don't worry about hurting his feelings—he obviously doesn't care about your feelings—and find a new weed dealer.

I have a follow-up question on your advice for JACKS, the gay manager who ran into an employee at a JO party. Alison "Ask a Manager" Green told him he couldn't go to these parties anymore. A distinction was made between sexual-situation encounters between bosses and those they manage in "private clubs" (the JO club) or at "public events" (Folsom Street Fair). My question is about Grindr/Scruff/Growlr/etc. Are those more like "private clubs" or "public events"? In part, my question stems from being a professor and having seen students and colleagues on these apps. I feel like I should not be reading the profiles of students in my department (who are mostly graduate students). I am also troubled by my colleagues appearing on these apps—from the perspective that this seems to be a sexually oriented space and there is the power differential between faculty and students.

Basics Of Sexual Spaces

Dating apps are the new gay bars—more than 75 percent of same-sex couples met online—so telling gay bosses or college profs they can't go on dating apps because their gay male students or underlings might be on them means condemning gay bosses and profs to celibacy. Bosses and profs shouldn't flirt with their students and underlings, of course, and it might be a good idea to block 'em when you spot 'em—so you won't be tempted by their profiles/torsos and they won't be tempted by yours—but gay bosses and profs are free to look for dick on dating apps.

On the Lovecast (savagelovecast.com), Where do kinks come from? Dr. Justin Lehmiller on the science of desire. Contact Dan via mail@savagelovenet, follow him on Twitter @fakedansavage, and visit ITMFA.org.

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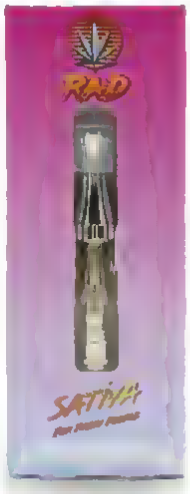

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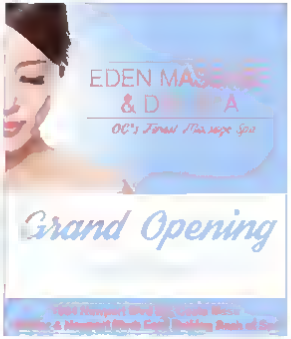
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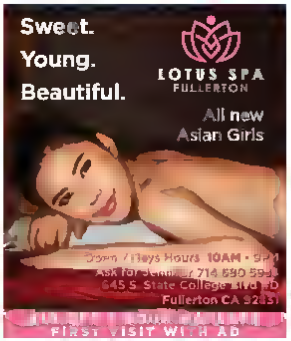
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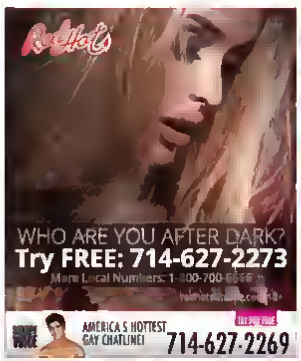
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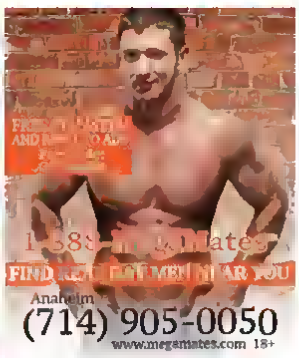
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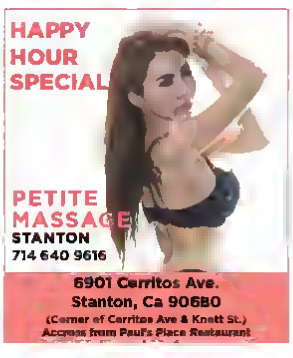
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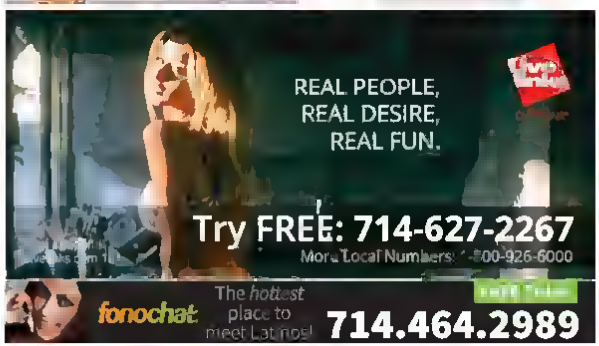
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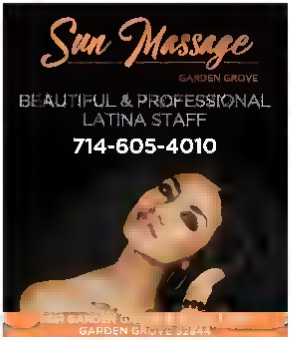

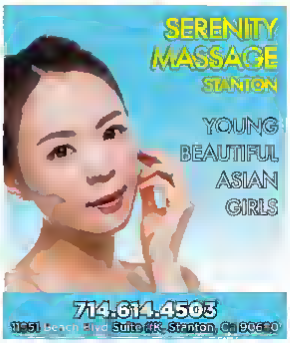

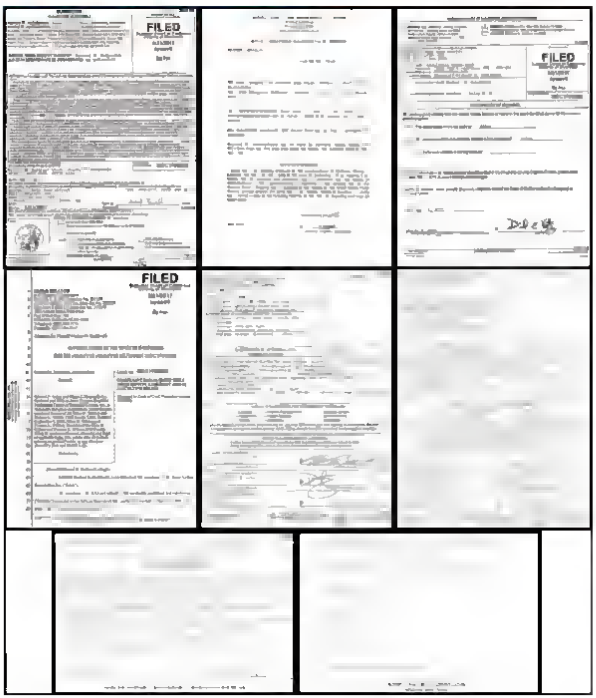

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Any person wishing to comment on that application may submit written comments to the Regional Director of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation at its regional office, 25 Jessie Street at Ecker Square, Suite 2300, San Francisco, California 94105, not later than 15 days after date of that application. The public portion of the application is on file in the regional office and is available for public inspection during regular business hours. Photocopies of the public portion of the application are available on request.

Published pursuant to sections 303.7 and 303.86 of the rules and regulations of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

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A Stunning Antidote

Shoreline Project lights up the night during Laguna Art Museum's Art & Nature Fest

BY LISA BLACK

WAIT UNTIL THEY START MOVING

ERIC STONER

A free spectacle of mythic proportions will take place on Laguna's Main Beach from twilight to dark on Nov 3. For the *Shoreline Project*, 1,000 participants will animate 1,000 luminous, carefully curated umbrellas for the site-specific event, which is the centerpiece of Laguna Art Museum's (LAM) sixth-annual Art & Nature Festival.

Each year, the museum commissions an artist to create an outdoor piece or performance, then pushes that artist well beyond the scope of his or her previous work. In 2013, Jim Denevan, known for his expansive sand drawings, made his first nocturnal drawing, using solar lanterns to meet LAM's challenge. Philip K. Smith was encouraged in 2016 to keep increasing the number of 10-foot-high, mirrored poles until his *Quarter Mile Arc* included 250 pillars.

For this centennial celebration, the museum chose artist and sculptor extraordinaire Elizabeth Turk, who has planned a spectacle so grand and radiant it promises to linger in the minds of all who actively take part or witness it. In addition to the 1,000 umbrella animators will be dancers and volunteers from the ASSEMBLY, Laguna High School, Laguna College of Art + Design, Orange Coast College, Chapman University, Irvine's Dance Works, LA's Jay Carlon, and Laguna Drum Circle.

The best spot to view it all is high above Main Beach, near the museum. "From the cliffs, you'll look down and see this amazing organism coming together," says Turk.

"Drones will be filming, so we have that overhead shot and everybody coming together—and to see what people do," she adds with a sparkle of anticipation. While the endless details keep her up at night, Turk can't wait to see what will happen.

A test-run was made on Emerald Bay beach with 225 umbrellas, less than a quarter of what will be seen on Main Beach. There wasn't time to get a permit, Turk says, but one of the participants volunteered to pay the fine should they be caught, with the caveat that the rehearsal end within 30 minutes. So many local residents streamed down to join the glowing hoopla on the beach that the pop-up became a happening in itself, lasting an hour and a half.

Shoreline Project is shaping up to be a stunning antidote to these darkly divided times. In addition to bringing people together through art, Turk wants to "create a common memory." Posing questions and hunting for commonalities have fueled her process from its inception. "What binds a community?" The seashore. "It's a place that brings us all together," says Turk. "It's a border, yet it's a celebratory border; it's a place that is also under threat. . . . Yet maybe it can act as a bridge to one another."

Along the shore are shells, which Turk often refers to as the original mobile home. The MacArthur grantee became fascinated by X-rays of volute shells at the Smithsonian's Freer Collection about 10 years ago, eventually developing the "Seashell X-Ray Mandala Series." If you saw her "Sentient Forms" exhibition at LAM a few years ago, the image being transferred to the umbrella canopies for *Shoreline Project* will be familiar.

Turk discovered a concrete connection between the makeup of humans and shells: calcium carbonate. After the shell skeletons are transferred to the umbrella canopies, they will be handheld to move through space in patterns suggested by collaborator Lara Wilson, co-founder of the ASSEMBLY.

"The scale of this project is exciting," says the dancer/choreographer. "Being entrusted not only with making a dance, but also with coordinating different movement groups and setting a tone for many voices to come—successfully, we hope—together has been very empowering."

The technical evolution of the umbrellas, as well as the astronomical number of them, is how LAM executive director Malcolm Warner pushed Turk in developing her first community extravaganza. Cellphones and flashlights were tried, but they were deemed not good enough. Instead, these state-of-the-art parasols have an LED illuminating the canopy and a shaft that glows from top to bottom. Two separate switches allow for maximum control. "Just by the shape of them, you're encouraged to play," says Turk.

"It should be fun, it's supposed to be happy," she says with a smile. "We have an ocean that will be cresting at 7 p.m., so that will move people and create its own shape."

"What I love about the umbrellas is how conducive to movement they are," adds Wilson. "They are designed for interactivity." Testing has proven they will work in the rain, but must not be doused in the sea. The parasols are lightweight enough for volunteers of all ages, but wind could be a negative factor.

Since many more than 1,000 volunteers have already registered, know that the umbrellas will go to the first to arrive wearing black from head to toe, with a signed release form in-hand. "The umbrellas are gifted to all the participants," says Turk. "That's part of the hope, that it begins a new conversation. You will have something in common whenever you see someone with one of the umbrellas."

Turk has worked side-by-side with project manager Laura Stapin to tackle the creative and logistical demands, and Stapin's daughters were an integral part of testing the umbrellas. The two hope to map the entire Pacific shore of the West Coast. And if they are lucky enough to take the project to the opposite shore, the Southeast Asian native volute would be replaced with an X-ray of a local shell.

While shores and science are under attack, LAM's Art & Nature Fest provides ample opportunity to celebrate what we cherish in art, nature, science and community, from Jane Munro of Fitzwilliam Museum of Cambridge speaking on "Charles Darwin: Art, Nature and Beauty" to the galleries around town to the pandemonium of the family-friendly art-making fun that ends the festival each year.

As a thousand brilliant-white mandalas disperse into Laguna's city lights on Nov 3, remember: It's just three days until the midterm elections. Here's hoping for brighter days.

LBLACK@OCWEEKLY.COM

ART & NATURE FEST
at Laguna Art Museum, 307 Cliff Dr., Laguna Beach, lagunaartmuseum.org. Thurs.-Sun., Nov. 1-4. See website for full schedule and participating galleries.

SHORELINE PROJECT
at Main Beach, Laguna Beach. Nov. 3, 5:45 p.m. Free.

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